

Daily Report

East Asia

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NOTICE TO READERS: An * indicates material not disseminated in electronic form.

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Japan

Editorial on Clinton's State of Union Address OW2701140595 Tokyo YOMIURI SHIMBUN in Japanese 26 Jan 95 Morning Edition p 3

[Editorial: "The U.S. President's Bid for the Administration's Resurgence"]

[FBIS Translated Text] In his State of the Union address on 24 January, U.S. President Bill Clinton announced his administration's policies. There is strong indication in his address that Clinton intends to make efforts that will lead to resurgence of his administration which is entering the latter half of its four-year term and regain lost ground in his bid for reelection in next year's presidential election.

In his speech, Clinton stressed the achievements his administration made in the past two years and announced, among other things, his intention to pursue a "small government," the implementation of tax cuts to help the middle class, continued efforts at cutting the fiscal deficit, and maintenance of the nation's global leadership.

Clinton's address reflected the nation's inclination to place priority on domestic affairs and indicated his willingness to cooperate with the Republicans on major policies. This is because the Clinton administration and the ruling Democratic Party, which suffered a major defeat in the off-year elections last November, are pressed to improve their image and gain the support of the middle class.

Clinton promised to change the federal government into a "smaller, less costly, and more effective government." That includes, among other things, integrating and abolishing government agencies, reducing the number of federal employees, and giving more power to state governments. This is probably in response to the fact that there is strong dissatisfaction among the American people against the federal government.

The President also confirmed that he would carry out middle class tax cuts as he announced late last year, declaring that \$60 billion would be cut over five years. Although the Government plans to secure its financial resources by carrying out administrative reform and cutting back on expenditures, the Republican Party insists on much larger tax cuts. We wonder whether the President will be able to convince the Republican-dominated Congress.

On reducing the fiscal deficit, the President is opposed to the Republicans' insistence on a draft Constitutional amendment which would make balanced budget mandatory. There are concerns that if Clinton should find it difficult to arrive at a compromise with the Republicans, he may push forward with tax cuts for the sake of gaining popularity. At the time of its inauguration, the Clinton administration placed priority on reforming the nation's medical insurance program. However, the administration failed in its endeavor and is now showing willingness to respect the Republicans' assertions. It is hoped that along with promoting welfare reform in a manner in which the people will be encouraged to stand on their own, Clinton will continue to aim at effective reform.

The U.S. economy has recovered under the Clinton administration, and unemployment has dropped. Despite this, the people's support for the President has hovered low. One of the reasons is that the people have lost trust in Clinton due to, among other things, scandals involving the President's close associates. Another negative factor is that the Clinton administration's foreign policy has lacked consistency in the past two years.

It is hoped that President Clinton will promptly pull himself together and make efforts to regain the people's confidence. Western nations will then place more confidence in the United States, and its leadership will be reinforced.

Traditionally, U.S. presidents have made brief reference to foreign policy in their state of the union addresses. In his latest address, Clinton briefly touched on such issues as financial aid to Mexico, extension of the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty, DPRK's suspected development of nuclear weapons, promotion of the comprehensive Middle East peace process, and antiterrorist measures. However, it seems that he merely addressed these issues in such a manner that no one is offended.

Thus, it can be acknowledged that the President cannot help but place priority on domestic affairs in his State of the Union address. However, we would like to have seen him address U.S.-Japanese relations and Asia-Pacific affairs, too.

President Clinton declared that maintaining global leadership in the future is linked to the United States' national security. We would like to watch closely whether the President can truly take the initiative under the uncertain post-Cold War international situation.

Tokyo, Washington Said Maintaining 'Distance' OW2701052995 Tokyo EKONOMISUTO in Japanese 24 Jan 95 pp 56-57

[Article by Takashi Inoguchi, professor at the Institute of Oriental Culture of Tokyo University: "Japan and the United States Avoid Each Other"]

[FBIS Translated Text] For the Japanese and U.S. relationship, the situation of each keeping a respectable distance from the other or of bypassing each other has been developing. I wonder if these two countries with giant economies will permit a relationship of mutual avoidance to continue, at least in the short term.

Considering the developments in 1994, such a phenomenon is understandable. Japan may well have gotten the impression that the United States would make demands repeatedly and loudly, yet in the end would give up. Was that not the way it went with the Japan-U.S. economic framework talks, the discussions on the protection of human rights with China, and nuclear arms inspections with North Korea (the People's Democratic Republic of Korea)?

If that was the case, it is not strange that Japan thought it wise to maintain a respectable distance from the United States. Furthermore, due to the long-term recession and high yen, many manufacturing industries have been making moves toward direct investments overseas—Asia in particular. So, more and more voices are becoming stronger, asking: What would be wrong with Japan regarding Asia to be of greater significance than the West?

In the United States, it is unmistakable that an overwhelming number of people's real incomes were either stagnate or falling for a long time, and this led to the Republican Party's gaining a majority in both houses of Congress. Moreover, people are demanding a tax cut because they feel that the federal government is spending too much and is wasting money. To counter the decline of social morals, reflected in such things as the wide use of narcotics, rampant murders, and the decline of social cohesion, religious and moralistic demands (like the execution of murderers and the assassination of abortion-performing doctors) have been rising.

In such circumstances, it is no wonder that the United States would pay little attention to Japan, which argues about issues which are of secondary importance and bypasses the issues which are of primary importance for the United States. It also is easier for the United States to deal with China and the ASEAN countries in terms of market liberalization. Moreover, their economic growth rates are far greater than that of Japan. It is not surprising that Japan as a whole is bypassed, just as by the Americans bypass Narita and Kansai Airports and fly to China and the ASEAN countries. Bold Action Is Possible [subhead]

Also, when I look at the foundations of the administrations in both countries, not only are they weak, but they are also in an extremely fluid state. Considering that, it is natural that there is very little desire to tackle head on the core of the Japanese-U.S. relationship, which contains difficult issues, issues which can not be solved in the short term. Needless to say, when the administrations' bases are weak, conversely, we may also be unable to eliminate the possibility that one side or the other would gamble and act boldly.

For example, it is possible that in APEC (Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation), the United States will bring China, and even Indonesia, in addition to South Korea and Singapore, into market liberalization in which the United States sets the pace; and Japan alone will be de

facto isolated within APEC. In the end, ironically in Osaka, Japan could be the last country to join the movement for which the United States has set the pace. Conversely, the United States could become fed up with a conveniently selective Japan, which would not do much for international security, yet would seek a permanent seat (with veto power) on the U.N. Security Council.

Nonetheless, a bold action by Japan is not likely. But such Japanese moves as suddenly joining the EAEC (East Asia Economic Conference) or demanding the reduction of U.S. bases in Japan could be interpreted as bold actions.

The birth of the coalition government including the Liberal Democratic Party [LDP], Socialist Party [SDPJ], and Sakigake [Harbinger] in the summer of 1994 is significant. This is because it really involves a policy change which could be interpreted by the United States as a retreat from the policy of market liberalization and strengthening of international security pursued by the preceding so-called reform coalition government led by Shinshinto [New Frontier Party]. We must watch carefully to see if that changed policy will become a healthy one, seeking to strike a positive balance and rejecting hasty actions, or whether it will become essentially an inward-looking and passive one.

We must also watch carefully what impact the GOP's majority in Congress in the fall of 1994 will have on President Clinton's foreign policy. But when I recall the political set up in the United States—both the Congress and the office of President are part of the government, in the Japanese sense—certain changes will, of course, occur. President Clinton will have no choice but to (de facto) surrender to the Republican Party and develop his foreign policy accordingly.

Thus, the relationship of the two economic powers is experiencing strange developments which were unthinkable a decade ago. This might not be politically inevitable in the short term. Whether it will become a medium to long term trend remains to be seen. To determine that, we need to be on the lookout for the possibility of the bold actions I mentioned earlier.

Assessment of Bilateral Auto Talks Differs

OW2701022995 Tokyo KYODO in English 0222 GMT 27 Jan 95

[By Antonio Kamiya]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Washington, Jan. 26 KYODO—Japan and the United States wound up the second day of high-level talks on autos and auto parts trade Thursday with officials from each side presenting a different picture on the state of the negotiations.

A U.S. official said there were "areas of agreement" between the two sides during the talks but a Japanese official disputed this assessment.

"I think the American side chose to place a more positive light on the negotiations," a Japanese official briefing reporters on the talks said. The Japanese official said the two sides, meeting for the first time after a four-month break, spent most of the time over the past two days "refreshing their memories" and stating their present negotiating position.

A U.S. official who spoke earlier to reporters gave a more upbeat assessment. "There are some areas of agreement but there are also many problem areas that need to be worked out," the official said on condition of anonymity. The U.S. official, however, noted that the U.S. negotiators do not expect all pending issues to be resolved during the current round of talks in Washington.

Japanese officials, for their part, emphasized what they called "confidence-building" measures between the new top Japanese negotiator, Vice Minister of International Trade and Industry Yoshihiro Sakamoto, and his U.S. counterpart, undersecretary of commerce Jeffrey Garten. "In our view, the biggest objective in our talks this time is to foster a measure of trust between the two sides," the Japanese official said.

The top-level negotiators are expected to wind up their talks Friday, but technical experts from the two sides may stretch their meetings through Saturday before adjourning, the official said.

While differing in their assessment on progress, U.S. officials agreed that a big gulf still divides the two countries on how to boost sales of U.S.-made cars and auto parts to Japan. "We can say with confidence today that we do not expect any resolution this week," the U.S. official said.

According to the U.S. version of events, Japanese and U.S. officials reopened talks Wednesday by reviewing their basic positions and clarifying the proposals each side has put on the table.

The U.S. official said all the issues on the agenda were covered in the first two days of negotiations in an atmosphere she characterized as "serious" in tone. The agenda, according to Japanese and U.S. officials, includes easing Japanese regulations on the use of replacement car parts, the purchase of U.S.-made parts by Japanese carmakers and expanding the number of dealerships carrying foreign cars. The U.S. is also counting on Japanese automakers to come up with a new "voluntary" purchase plan for foreign auto parts to replace a three-year purchase program that is set to run out by the end of March.

Japanese officials said U.S. negotiators did not raise the issue during the past two days. Japanese negotiators have refused to get involved in the parts purchase plans of automakers on grounds they are "beyond government reach."

The two countries launched the auto trade talks two years ago under the 1993 "framework" trade accord designed to expand sales of foreign goods and services in Japan and narrow Japan's vast trade surplus. As the auto trade talks languished, the gap in auto trade widened along with a sharp increase in the overall U.S. trade deficit with Japan.

According to trade data released this week by the U.S. Commerce Department to underscore the lopsided nature of auto trade between the two countries, imports account for a mere 4 percent of the Japanese car and truck market versus 33 percent in the u.S. In the auto parts market, the U.S. data shows, the import share accounts for even less—2.4 percent in Japan versus 32.5 percent in the U.S.

The U.S. trade gap with Japan in the auto sector, according to a Commerce Department study, widened by 4.9 billion dollars in the two years when the car talks were in progress—from 31.2 billion dollars in 1992 to 36.1 billion dollars last year. Meanwhile, the overall U.S. Trade deficit with Japan rose from 59.3 billion dollars in 1993 to an estimated 62.7 billion dollars last year.

Future Role of UN, Tokyo in PKO Discussed

Yasushi Akashi Interviewed

OW2501130795 Tokyo TOKYO SHIMBUN in Japanese 23 Jan 95 Morning Edition p 7

[First of a two-part series entitled: "UN's PKO and Japan; Interviewing Yasushi Akashi, UN Special Envoy to Former Yugoslavia"; by TOKYO SHIMBUN Chief Editor Nobuaki Yoshimura and foreign news department chief Noriyuki Sakuma; time and place not given]

[FBIS Translated Text] There is an opportunity to review peacekeeping operations (PKO), a key UN function. This is because, among other things, the United Nations is doing some soul searching over its "Peace-Enforcement Unit [PEU]," which has forceful power and was proposed by UN Secretary General Butros Butros-Ghali and suffered a setback in Somalia. We interviewed Yasushi Akashi, UN special envoy to former Yugoslavia who returned to Japan to attend a Tokyo conference on "the new phase of PKO"; and Hisashi Owada, ambassador to the United Nations. Among other things, we asked them how Japan should be involved in UN PKO and on the issue of becoming a permanent UN Security Council member.

[TOKYO SHIMBUN] UN PKO has suffered setbacks, including the fact that the PEU was directly involved in the conflict. Do you think PKO based on trial and error was unavoidable?

[Akashi] After the Cold War, people's expectations of the United Nations expanded more than what it could actually do and it was anxious to respond to people's expectations. To deal with a large-scale conflict like the Gulf war, we have no choice but to use multinational

forces. In terms of the line of command, however, I think the United Nations should deal with aggressions by itself if they are of small scale involving about 10,000 people. The PKO in former Yugoslavia was the largest in UN PKO history.

[TOKYO SHIMBUN] in a new proposal made recently, Secretary General Butros-Ghali actually withdrew the PEU concept. Do you think the use of compelling force will be given exclusively to non-UN units, including NATO forces?

[Akashi] I think it is important for us to maintain the stance that the United Nations takes leadership in mapping out policies and making decisions in dealing with situations. People in places far from the conflict site [former Yugoslavia] tend to say that the United Nations should beat the Serbian forces. However, the situation is not that simple. UN transportation troops drive through Serb-controlled areas, so we cannot give humanitarian support if they attack us in retaliation. As we were negotiating for a truce in December, we asked NATO not to excite the Serbs by flying reconnaissance airplanes lower than 1,500 meters. NATO accepted our request. NATO's greatest task is whether or not it can fulfill its role in settling national or regional conflicts. Former Yugoslavia is NATO's testing ground and it is assuming a modest stance in seeking [a resolution].

[TOKYO SHIMBUN] However, the United States still "believes in power" and may think that the United Nations is half-hearted.

[Akashi] Now that the Republicans hold the majority in Congress, there are hard-line policies. However, the Clinton administration is assuming a careful and realistic stance. I can feel that the United States is full of spirit and willing to settle the issue as soon as possible while cooperating with European countries.

[TOKYO SHIMBUN] Secretary General Butros-Ghali is also leaning toward returning to ordinary PKO, which does not resort to the use of force. I think this is good news for Japan, which is careful about participating in PKO.

[Akashi] Japan should keep an ideal stance regarding PKO. This is neither a road to militarism nor puts the Self-Defense Forces in danger. Japan will not be caught up in a war if, upon obtaining approvals from parties involved, it participates in PKO after a cease-fire is reached.

[TOKYO SHIMBUN] After World War It, Japanese people have been controlling themselves by not being involved in killing or wounding others, even in self-defense.

[Akashi] Sometimes, Japanese policemen fire guns for self- defense or get killed in the line of duty. Cannot we do the same abroad? Japanese should have confidence in themselves. [TOKYO SHIMBUN] Do you think the preventive deployment [yobo tenkai] in former Yugoslavia and Macedonia are areas where Japan can easily participate in PKO as an example of setting Japan's future course for dealing with PKO?

[Akashi] Compared to actions taken after a conflict breaks out to deal with a situation, preventive deployment is very effective. Regardless of whether or not there are military units, we will all be killed if someone like Saddam Husayn decides to launch an invasion. In such a case, we will withdraw without fighting. Japan can alarm international society about such an occasion and plan its role in preventive deployment.

[TOKYO SHIMBUN] Do you not think that participation in all PKO activities will be a required condition for Japan to become a permanent UNSC member?

[Akashi] Each country has things it can and cannot do. Japan can say that it will not participate in PKO using force (including the PEU), but it will in other PKO activities. It is quite acceptable. People have a misconception that PKO is accompanied by force because a strange body, the peacekeeping force (PKF), was formed.

Hisashi Owada Interviewed

OW2701070895 Tokyo TOKYO SHIMBUN in Japanese 24 Jan 95 Morning Edition p 5

[Second and last in a two-part series, "UN's PKO and Japan": "Interview With Hisashi Owada, Ambassador to the United Nations"; by Nobuaki Yoshimura, TOKYO SHIMBUN chief editor, and Masaya Yoshida, foreign news department reporter; place, date not given]

[FBIS Translated Text] [TOKYO SHIMBUN] The United Nations is expected to play the role of "world policeman" in the post-Cold War era. However, the world body has had bitter experiences in its deep intervention in ethnic conflicts occurring in various parts of the world. It has carried out peacekeeping operations (PKO), but has committed some mistakes. Were these mistakes inevitable?

[Owada] The world order during the Cold War period was maintained under confrontation between the United States and the former Soviet Union. But after the war ended, it broke up. Thus, it was natural for the United Nations to subsequently enhance its peacekeeping efforts. Under such circumstances, the role the world body is expected to play has changed from that of settling conflicts between nations to that of preventing the disintegration of order in countries. In addition, it has to tackle the difficult task of restoring the world order. It can fulfill its duties when it is accepted by countries in which it intervenes, as in the case of its cooperation in reconstructing Cambodia and Mozambique. However, in the case of Somalia PKO, there was no national consensus in the country on accepting it—thus, forcible

intervention failed. Since then, some have called on the United Nations to exercise prudence in implementing PKO missions.

[TOKYO SHIMBUN] Reconsidering his failed plan to establish a "peace enforcement unit," UN Secretary General Butrus Butrus-Ghali has recently made another proposal that the United Nations should return to a conventional PKO which does not entail the use of force.

[Owada] When Tokyo enacted the PKO Cooperation Law, some Japanese said that conventional PKO were outdated. They were wrong. I think Butrus-Ghali's new proposal indicates that the United Nations, through trial and error, has recognized anew that conventional PKO should be the core of its peace activities. Japan should cooperate in promoting conventional PKO in accordance with the PKO Cooperation Law.

[TOKYO SHIMBUN] It is all right for the United Nations to shelve the issue of forming a peace enforcement unit, but is it not necessary for it to play the "dirty role" of forcibly enforcing peace operations?

[Owada] The UN Chapter contains the idea that the international community should use force against a nation which invades other countries out of sinister motives. Butrus-Ghali proposed the formation of a peace enforcement unit based on his thinking that it would be difficult to use force in reality. Meanwhile, since the collapse of the Cold War structure, Americans have begun to question why they have to sacrifice themselves for what is not in the vital interests of their country, although the United States has to play an essential part in UN PKO. This is a sign that the United States may become inner-directed and move toward isolationism. We need to pay attention to this.

[TOKYO SHIMBUN] Will Butrus-Ghali's new proposal affect Japan's five PKO principles (which limit the use of weapons to the minimum necessary) and its freeze on participating in UN peacekeeping forces (PKF)?

[Owada] Japan's PKO participation has been praised highly by other countries, so we should be proud. No country among UN members expects Japan to participate in armed operations. Meanwhile, basic rules of traditional PKO are in accord with Japan's PKO principles. Japan should welcome Butrus-Ghali's new proposal as it places importance on traditional PKO, accumulates experience, and studies ways to give PKO cooperation commensurate with its standing as well as unfreezing participation in PKF.

[TOKYO SHIMBUN] But conventional PKO also entails the danger of combat. Will Japan be able to conform to its advocacy of nonmilitary operations when it participates in PKO in the future?

[Owada] Participating in PKO should not cost lives, but it is impossible to fulfill PKO duties with no victims. While taking into consideration its policies and public opinions, the government should make efforts to meet

demands from the international community and decide in which PKO Japan should participate.

[TOKYO SHIMBUN] Is it possible that Japan will be given permanent membership on the UN Security Council [UNSC] on condition that it join all kinds of PKO and multinational forces?

[Owada] Japan is seeking the permanent seat partly because it hopes to participate in efforts to put the United Nations on a desirable course. The important thing is whether or not other UN members will consider Japan's participation to be desirable. There is a strong voice within the United Nations that Japan should assume a responsible role in the UNSC. It is important for Japan to clarify its intention to actively participate in efforts to strengthen UN functions and to indicate how it will fulfill its responsibility.

UN Not To Seek SDF Help in Golan Heights

OW2701121995 Tokyo KYODO in English 1148 GMT 27 Jan 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, Jan. 27 KYODO—The United Nations has informed Japan of its decision not to seek the dispatch of Japanese Self-Defense Forces (SDF) troops for a peacekeeping mission in the Israeli-occupied Golan Heights, Foreign Ministry officials said Friday [27 January].

The Japanese mission to the UN in New York has relayed the decision in a telegram to the Japanese Government, the officials said.

The UN Department of Peacekeeping Operations made the decision in consultations involving Undersecretary General Kofi Annan, they said.

The UN had earlier asked Japan to shoulder some functions of a Canadian logistics battalion operating under the UN Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF) in the Golan Heights, which Israel seized from Syria in 1967.

But the UNDOF could not accept Japan's insistence that SDF troops can participate only in overseas operations not requiring the bearing of arms, the officials said.

Also, the Japanese Defense Agency's intention to send an additional rear support squadron to prepare for lengthy peacekeeping operations has been rejected by the U.N., due to concern over further UN cost increases.

Some Japanese cabinet ministers have also remained cautious over a possible Japanese role in UN peace-keeping missions to the Golan Heights, government sources said.

The telegram, pointing out specific problems the UN says are difficult to adjust, stressed the importance of the Japanese Government taking emergency measures to cope with such incompatibilities between UN requests and Japanese responses, the officials said.

Officials of the Defense Agency, apparently perplexed by the UN decision, said they want to clarify the U.N.'s real intentions in sending the telegram.

The ruling coalition of the Social Democratic Party, the Liberal Democratic Party and new party Sakigake [Harbinger] have also been considering sending a joint fact-finding mission to the Golan Heights.

Following the enactment of a UN Peacekeeping Cooperation Law in June 1992, Japan sent SDF troops on a UN mission to Cambodia from September 1992 to September 1993 and to Mozambique from May 1993 to January 1995.

Also, in its first role participating in a UN relief mission, SDF personnel were dispatched to Zaire last September for a three-month assignment helping Rwandan refugees forced to live in camps after fleeing widespread massacres at home.

ODA Budget Expanded for FY 1995

OW2701102495 Tokyo KYODO in English 0958 GMT 27 Jan 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, Jan. 27 KYODO— Japan's budget for official Development Assistance (ODA) for fiscal 1995 starting in April shows improvement both in quality and quantity, Foreign Ministry officials said Friday [27 January].

The ODA operating budget, which is normally used to represent the scale of the nation's ODA expenditure, is 2.13 trillion yen on a gross basis, surpassing 2 trillion yen for the first time, the officials said.

The amount represents a 3.7 percent increase over the current fiscal year's budget.

The operating budget includes the ODA general account budget, borrowed money from the fiscal investment and loan program, government bond payments to international organizations and special account budgets of individual ministries.

The net budget, following the deduction of funds recovered from ODA loans, was 1.77 billion yen, up 2.1 percent from the previous year, the officials said.

Qualitatively, the grant portion in the operating budget, including grant aid and technical cooperation, stands at 51.5 percent, topping 50 percent for the first time, the officials said.

The ratio of Japan's ODA to gross national product, a figure that shows whether a country's aid is commensurate with its economic power, also rose slightly to 0.355 percent, they said.

The U.N.-set target for ODA/GNP ratio is 0.7 percent.

Manufacturers 'Confident' About Competitiveness OW2501150195 Tokyo NIHON KEIZAI SHIMBUN in Japanese 23 Jan 95 Morning Edition p 17

[FBIS Translated Text] According to a Japan Development Bank [JDB] "International Competitiveness Sur sy," about 80 percent of middle-class manufacturing firms replied that "it will be possible to maintain or recover competitiveness," indicating that they are confident about the economic outlook despite the yen's appreciation against other currencies. Although they face difficulties regarding pricing, they feel they can cope with the situation through industrial restructuring efforts.

The JDB conducted its survey last August, querying manufacturing firms with capital between 100 million yen and 1 billion yen. A total of 1,060 firms nationwide responded to the survey, which was conducted when the yen was valued at around 100 yen to the dollar and based on the assumption that "the yen's value will tend to remain high in the medium term."

As for the current situation concerning competitiveness in regard to major domestic products, 54 percent of middle-class manufacturing firms replied that they were "at an advantage." Most of these firms were from industries that deal with materials such as ceramics and steel. Those that belong to processing and assembling industries, such as general machinery and electric machinery makers, were more or less divided evenly between those that replied they were "at an advantage" and those that replied they were "at a disadvantage."

Asked about future prospects, 49 percent (22 percent of all respondents) of the firms that either said they "can compare favorably" with foreign firms in competitiveness or were "at a disadvantage" replied that "it will be possible to recover competitiveness" through industrial restructuring. Combined with firms that said they were at an advantage, it can be seen that 76 percent of the total respondent firms have an optimistic outlook. Regarding factors barring firms from recovering competitiveness, 30 percent of the firms cited "regulations." This was followed by 26 percent that cited "energy costs" and 20 percent that cited "distribution costs."

Regarding production abroad, 17 percent of the firms said they "have plans to do so in the future," while 11 percent said they "plan to expand already-established production bases abroad." Among different industries, electric machinery makers were the largest group of firms that either "have plans" for production abroad or plan "to expand" existing production bases, with 49 percent indicating they have such plans.

Brunei To Help Manage Daiwa Securities

OW2701021495 Tokyo KYODO in English 0156 GMT 27 Jan 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, Jan. 27 KYODO—The Brunei Government will buy 20 percent of Century Securities Co., becoming the first foreign entity to participate in managing a comprehensive Japanese brokerage, company officials said Friday.

The officials of the midsize brokerage, affiliated with Daiwa Securities Co., said the oil-rich Southeast Asian

kingdom will be the biggest single shareholder through the purchase late next month of 6.2 million shares or 20 percent of the privately owned century.

Brunei will then send managers to help run the brokerage, the officials said, confirming a report in the NIHON KEIZAI SHIMBUN, which said the Daiwa Group will remain century's largest sharaholding bloc after Brunei's 2.1 billion yen investment.

Brunei's cabinet and Japan's Finance Ministry have tentatively approved the deal, and Brunei is only awaiting what is expected to be a favorable accounting report before giving its formal approval, the business daily reported in its lead story in the morning edition.

Under the scheme, Brunei will get the bulk of eight million century shares being allotted to various companies and a group of century shareholding employees, the newspaper said.

The move comes as many Japanese brokerages seek ways to survive the cash crunch triggered by the burst of the asset-inflated bubble economy which ended Japan's late 1980s stock investment boom.

Banks Engage in Financial Advising Abroad

952A0191A Tokyo GINKO JIHYO in Japanese Dec 94 pp 41-43

[Article by Yoshiyuki Takano]

[FBIS Translated Text] During the last few years, we have seen in developing countries, primarily in Asia, the Middle and Near East, and Central and South America, numerous energy resource development projects aimed at their export expansion and large infrastructural projects attendant upon their economic progress. Of these projects, an increasing number of cases involve hundreds of millions of dollars to several billion dollars. Moreover, electric power and LNG projects under the BOO [build, own, operate] (introduction of private-sector vitality) formula or the BOT [build, operate, transfer] (privatization) formula are on the increasing trend due partly to their easiness to work out project financing.

It Is Becoming Core of Commission Business

Amid these developments, city banks and long-term credit banks are entering one after another into the FA (financial advisory) business which provides guidance in raising funds for overseas projects.

The financial advisory business is not limited to the work of bank accommodation. It is the work of actually raising funds after recommending the to main project undertaker the most efficient fund-raising mechanisms, including the issue of stocks. It requires lines of communications with overseas investors as well as financial know-how, and so is defined as "one of the highest fields of work in international businesses" (Bank of Tokyo). It is said that a bank designated for FA business generally

receives a commission amounting to hundreds of thousands of dollars a month, including annual expenses and rewards for successful operations. The financial advisory profession is indeed becoming the core of the commission business along with M&A [merger and acquisition] mediation.

Asia Is Center of Project Cases

The financial advisory function is actively carried out by city banks and long-term credit banks; however, doing the business still more actively among them is the Industrial Bank of Japan.

At present, the bank is handling 10 FA cases, but the number will rise to 16 when six cases now in the negotiating stage are included. By area or nation they break down into 13 cases for Asia, two cases for the Middle East, and one case for Russia, indicating that the bank's main area in this business is Asia. By the way, many of those Asian cases are projects in Indonesia, Thailand, Malaysia, and China. By project field, five cases each are related to electric power, communications (such as expansion of telephone circuits), and energy (oil, gas, and LNG [liquefied natural gas]), and one case to the petrochemical field.

Drawing particularly large attention among those cases is the FA work for a project to build the first large private coal-fired thermal power station (Paiton) in Indonesia now being promoted by Mitsui and Co. and U.S. General Electronic (GE).

The bank adopts the BOO formula in order to carry out infrastructural plant investments without depending on the developing country's national budget. It gives guidance as to ways of raising funds necessary for the project amounting to approximately \$2.6 billion (the largest in Asia), together with U.S. Chase Manhattan Bank. To raise the portion of about \$2 billion, the two banks plan to form a syndicate of banks for loans. The remaining amount of about \$600 million will be paid up by stockholders. This process is scheduled to be completed by February next year.

The Long-Term Credit Bank of Japan, too, has a contract to assume financial advisory functions for a joint venture in Indonesia between Amoco, a U.S. petroleum producing firm, and the Mitsui Group.

This is a project to manufacture high-purity terephthalic acid, a raw material for polyester fibers and the PET [polyethylene terephthalate] bottle, and its total cost stands at a little over \$400 million. The domestic demand for high purity terephthalic acid is high in Indonesia. Therefore, "it will be manufactured and used within the country" (the Project Finance Department of the Merchant Banking Group). The financial advisory work for Amoco is carried out by the Long-Term Credit Bank of Germany and British Barclays Bank, while that for the Mitsui Group is assumed by the Industrial Bank of Japan, Sakura Bank, and Mitsui Trust & Banking Co.

As an adviser to the Estonian Government's harbor expansion project, Sumitomo Bank has embarked on raising funds amounting to \$600 million together with the same government.

In June last year, the bank obtained from the Estonian Government's Tallinn Harbor Corporation the status of financial adviser for the port's expansion project. It has since pushed ahead with an investigation of the project's commercialization and with the work of formulating fund-raising plans. It has begun raising investment funds from private enterprises, and in addition, is calling on public financial institutions such as the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) to extend loans.

This is a project to expand the harbor of Tallinn, the capital city of Estonia, and newly build four terminals handling oil and containers. The project is scheduled to start next year with a plan to increase the annual handling volume sixfold in 1999 from the present 7 million tons.

The bay forms an ice-free port facing the Baltic Sea. The Estonian Government looks forward to developing it as a sea gate connecting European countries and Russia. The bank, too, will find new business chances by deeply involving itself in promoting informational connections with the government of Estonia which has improved its environment as a nation of its own through independence.

In raising funds amounting to \$600 million, the bank expects to obtain half of the funds through the government's long-term loans from public financial institutions and the remaining half from investments by private enterprises. Using funds raised, the government is to improve infrastructure such as piers and railways, while private enterprises—as those in charge of terminal operations—turn their hands to building relevant installations and to operating them after their completion.

The bank intends to hold an explanatory meeting in London and begin collecting investment funds from private enterprises. In addition, it also intends to sound out the possibility of loans from the European Investment Bank (EIB) and the Export-Import Bank of Japan which has set up a credit framework for the Estonian Government. Oil and shipping firms in European countries and Japanese-owned companies are showing an interest in investing, and in addition, as for public financial institutions, the EBRD has begun studying the measure to offer loans.

Moreover, the bank also assumes jointly with Fuji Bank the financial advisory work for water supply and drainage involving a total of \$800 million being carried out by Mitsui & Co. and Sumitomo Corp. in Turkey.

The Bank of Tokyo has been assuming finacial advisory work since June this year for a project to build a large power station in Pakistan. This is the first oil-fired

thermal power plant construction project (the Hab thermal power generation project) under the BOO formula in Pakistan, the total cost of which stands at about \$1.6 billion. It is also the first case in which the World Bank guarantee has been applied to the ECO (Economic Cooperation Organization).

Moreover, the bank has also turned its hand to a coalfired thermal power plant project (the Philippine Pagbilao thermal power plant project; maximum output:
720 megawatts) under the BOT formula in which the
Ministry of International Trade and Industry [MITI]
and the Export-Import Bank of Japan have been participating for the first time. Its total cost is about \$900
million. The Philippine National Power Corporation
will receive the electricity. The bank negotiated with the
Export-Import Bank of Japan and MITI as adviser to
Hopewell, a Chinese-owned company which is a sponsor
of this project together with the International Finance
Corporation. In addition, the bank also worked as the
agent for a part of the Import Board's buyer's credit—the
portion participated in by commercial banks.

The bank is also actively working to strengthen the organizational aspect of the project.

The Industrial Bank of Japan has exclusively assigned its FA business to its Project Engineering Department since April 1993. The department staff is made up of 25 experts (10 women).

Sumitomo Bank newly set up the International Business Department (Asia) within its Hong Kong branch and dispatched proficient financial advisers to the department from its London branch. It plans to "increase the number of those in charge of financial advising at various operational bases in Japan, the United States, and Europe and consolidate the system globally" (the International Business Department).

Fuji Bank set up the "Project Finance Department No. 3" specializing in financial advising in July 1994. It will shortly scout for American experts. In addition, it plans to place several Asian-Americans in the department one after another in response to increasing demands in the Asian region.

The Bank of Tokyo also reorganized its Development Finance Department in charge of overseas projects in July this year. Four more persons were assigned to the department, and its system was rearranged so that emphasis would also be placed on projects expected to increase in number in heavily indebted countries such as Vietnam, Burma, Pakistan, and India in the future. The bank also strives to strengthen the financial advisory staff at BOT International, Hong Kong. A person (in the Development Finance Department) says that "concerning Asian projects, their FA business will be tackled under a dual system, that is, tackled by the BOT International, Hong Kong, and our department."

New Risks May Be Invited

The financial advisory function will have a great significance for banks from the following strategic viewpoint

as well: the work can be linked to converting the profitmaking structure through the firm establishment of commission incomes and also to expanding banking operations by strengthening relations with governments and enterprises of various countries. The scope of cases to which FA work is applied has been widening in view of increasing construction of communications networks and tourist business in developing countries and in view of the overseas expansion of Japanese-owned enterprises such as the development of industrial complexes and overseas real estate programs. The need for financial advisory work for financing overseas projects keeps on rising and "it is now becoming a booming business" (a person concerned with a long-term credit bank).

However, this business represents a sector in which U.S. and European investment banks and merchant banks are overwhelmingly strong, and so Japanese banks are losing ground heavily to them. Accordingly, a random overseas expansion alone will invite only new risks. As things stand now, it is very hard to deal with this business.

City banks and long-term credit banks are trying to consolidate their organizations and find a way out of their difficulties against the backdrop of animated projects in the Asian region, but they still have many tasks to be fulfilled. For example, they have to depart from the U.S. and European formula (separation of the FA work from lenders). In this connection, the Industrial Bank of Japan has already realized the unity of the FA work and lenders in project cases in Asia, saying: "In the Asian market where competition is retting fierce, a package of loose security measures will not attract lenders. The need to carry out financial advisory functions from the lender's standpoint has arisen" (Project Engineering Department Director Shigeo Suzuki).

Needless to say, the nurturing of specialists, too, is a task common to all banks. At any rate, the success of the work hangs on whether a tenacious and strong strategy formed from a long-term viewpoint will take root.

Tokyo Receives Quake Relief From 20 Countries OW2701111695 Tokyo KYODO in English 1032 GMT 27 Jan 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, Jan. 27 KYODO— Japan has so far received assistance from 20 countries for people in the quake-hit areas of western Japan, Foreign Ministry spokesman Terusuke Terada said Friday [27 January].

Terada told a press conference that as of Friday, a total of 59 countries and three international organizations have offered to send some forms of assistance for the people of Kobe and other cities of Hyogo Prefecture, in the aftermath of the Jan. 17 earthquake which killed more than 5,000 people.

Among the countries that have extended aid are Switzerland, France, the United States, Canada, South Korea, China, New Zealand, Mongolia and Thailand. Switzerland and France sent rescue teams with search dogs.

The U.S. offered blankets, mineral water and tents while Canada sent temporary shelters for the evacuees.

Criticism has mounted over Japan's sluggishness in responding to foreign offers of assistance.

Vice Foreign Minister Kunihiko Saito said the government should study ways to effectively receive aid from overseas but added that whether or not to accept such offers should be determined according to the need for the kinds of help offered.

Murayama 'Blasted' in Diet for Handling of Quake

OW2701025095 Tokyo KYODO in English 0230 GMT 27 Jan 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, Jan. 27 KYODO— Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama came under fire in the Diet on Friday for responding slowly to the Jan. 17 earthquake in western Japan while a key highway passing through the quake-hit area reopened.

As the House of Representatives began debate on the fiscal 1995 budget, Toshiki Kaifu, head of the largest opposition party Shinshinto (New Frontier Party), blasted the government for what he said is its slow response to the deadly quake and urged new legislation for managing emergencies.

Meanwhile, in the quake-hit Hanshin area which stretches from Osaka to Kobe, some elevated sections of the Chugoku Expressway reopened Friday morning, ending 10 days of traffic chaos during the closure of the key road linking eastern and western Japan.

The reopened sections, between Yokawa, Hyogo Prefecture, and Toyonaka, Osaka, and between Suita, Osaka, and Nishinomiya, Hyogo Prefecture, had been closed due to damage caused by the quake to supporting pillars.

Ten days after the earthquake, the government is stepping up efforts to rebuild Kobe and other devastated areas and new legislation is under consideration to speed up their restoration.

The Imperial Household Agency said Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko will visit the quake-hit region next Tuesday to encourage quake victims still forced to take shelter in local schools and public buildings.

About 20 percent of local people have had to move to such makeshift accommodation as the quake destroyed or badly damaged more than 88,000 houses and other buildings.

Police put the latest death toll at 5,083 as of 10:45 AM [0145 GMT] Friday, the largest number of quake casualties in Japan since the Great Kanto Earthquake that killed more than 140,000 people in 1923. Fifty-one people are still missing, police said.

Government Handling of Quake Crisis Evaluated
OW2701070995 Tokyo KYODO in English 0625 GMT
27 Jan 95

["News focus" by Kohei Murayama: "Government Refuses To Use Existing Crisis Management System"]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, Jan. 27 KYODO— Japan's National Land Agency which supervises the government's emergency headquarters continued to close its telephone switchboards at 5 P.M. as normal during the first crucial days after a predawn earthquake devastated Kobe and nearby areas on Jan. 17.

It is one of many examples showing how slowly and inadequately the government responded to Japan's worst quake in 70 years which left over 5,000 people dead and 300,000 homeless, experts on crisis management say.

But does Japan really lack a system to integrate and alert ministries and agencies during emergencies? Not according to the experts.

They say that Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama simply surrendered powers he could have used to directly and promptly mobilize ministries and agencies under the current system, in a similar way to that of other major industrialized nations.

Not only critics at home and abroad but also survivors in quake-ravaged Kobe and nearby areas said it could be that many people died unnecessarily while the government responded slowly ever sending the Self-Defense Forces (SDF), clearing roads for emergency and relief vehicles, and accepting foreign help.

Facing a mounting barrage of criticism since the quake, Murayama kept repeating that the government has "done its best," but said Thursday [26 January] there is a need to establish a new system for crisis management such as supervision by a body like the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) in the United States.

But Atsuyuki Sassa is not impressed. "It's just camouflage," he said.

Sassa, former head of the cabinet security affairs office, noted that Japan now has legislation enabling a prime minister to enforce his leadership to integrate ministries and agencies under his direct command.

The current disaster-related laws stipulate that relief measures must be taken through three levels of emergency headquarters—starting with local authorities, then the National Land Agency, with the last resort being a body entrusting all rights of command to the prime minister.

But the Jan. 17 great Hanshin earthquake is still being dealt with at the second level, meaning the mayor of the hardest-hit port city of Kobe holding decision-making

powers at the quake sites, and the National Land Agency serving to supervise the work of other ministries and agencies.

If the disaster had been classified in the top category of emergency, under current laws the national government would have been able to establish headquarters at the quake sites to make all necessary decisions, everruling local authorities, Sassa said.

Murayama "should have exerted his leadership even at the cost of his political life," Sassa said.

The premier seemed reluctant to centralize power against his socialist party's ideology, he noted.

Top opposition party strategist Ichiro Ozawa also condemned Murayama for taking more than four hours to mobilize the SDF troops due to his party's past insistence that the SDF is unconstitutional.

The Social Democratic Party reversed its traditional stand on the SDF when it joined archrival Liberal Democratic Party and New Party Sakigake to form the current coalition government last year.

With the Kobe municipal authorities continuing to make the decisions, "Japan has been embarrassed internationally" for its confusion at quake sites and also its slow response to rescue and relief offers from governments and volunteers in other nations," Sassa said.

"We can't blame the Foreign Ministry," he said, because it has been serving simply as the window for offers of assistance from abroad. And the local authorities in the stricken areas later rejected such help just because it was beyond their capacities to make prompt decisions on the flood of offers received, he added.

One example, according to Sassa, was when Swiss rescue dogs were kept at the airport for lengthy quarantine checks despite the Foreign Ministry's strong wish to send them immediately to sites where survivors might still have been trapped alive beneath the rubble of collapsed buildings.

Such confusion could have been avoided if empowered officials of related ministries and agencies had been working together under the premier's direct command.

Sassa compared Japan's rejection of international offers of aid to the isolationist behavior of communist states. But in fact a communist nation might have moved much faster to rescue its people as Li Feng, a Chinese graduate student at Kobe University said.

"The Chinese Government immediately sends millions of troops from the People's Liberation Army to rescue victims, but in Japan, only police and firefighters reached the disaster scene quickly," said Li, who was hit by the powerful shock in downtown Kobe.

Japanese leaders must stop trying to dodge their responsibilities by focusing on creating new bodies like the

FEMA, experts say. Instead, they should think hard about the Kobe disaster and admit that the current crisis management system is adequate—if Japanese leaders lead.

Editorials on Need To Improve Crisis Management

TOKYO SHIMBUN Comments

OW2501145895 Tokyo TOKYO SHIMBUN in Japanese 24 Jan 95 Morning Edition p 7

[Editorial: "Why Is Discussion Not Being Conducted on 'Crisis Management'?"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Although a Diet debate started, heckling and angry roars stood out and vital discussions have not proceeded smoothly. Now that politics is urged to play its role in working out measures to deal with earthquake disasters and other matters, the Diet should fulfill its primary responsibilities.

As the seriousness of the great Hanshin (southern Hyogo Prefecture) earthquake disaster was driven home, delays in responses by the central and local governments, as well as the lack of any crisis-management ability, have been subjected to a fire of severe criticism. We expected that Toshiki Kaifu, head of the New Frontier Party [NFP] who was the lead-off interpellator at the lower house interpellations, would ask questions by expressing the people's uneasiness or on behalf of the people.

However, Kaifu used most of his speech to reveal his party's "political policy" (administration concept). He failed to specifically seek government replies. Proposals, which Kaifu made at no small pains, were not answered. Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama did not explain concrete measures the government intends to take to deal with the situation. Nothing came out of the confrontation between the leaders.

We can positively evaluate Kaifu's eagerness to unprecedentedly present countermeasures as the head of the largest opposition party in front of the people. During interpellations, however, both proposals and questions should be presented to the government. If not, "Diet activation," as advocated by the NFP, will not be realized. Unilateral speeches should be made at each political party's oratorical meetings.

Kaifu criticized that the government delay in collecting information immediately after the quake led to the confusion of relief activities. He also pointed out that the delay in mobilizing the Self-Defense Forces [SDF] was caused by the current law, which stipulates that the SDF be dispatched to disaster-stricken areas at the government's request. With this, he emphasized the necessity to hurriedly improve the government's crisis-management system.

He attacked the lack of a government crisis-management system. Such attacks have often been made in the past. However, Prime Minister Murayama's reply had little substance; he said that "the government's measures were the best." This can be taken as his shifting to a defiant attitude.

In response to the way Kaifu posed questions, the prime minister seems to have become slightly emotional. However, the Diet is a venue to explain government policy to the people. Such an attitude of being satisfied only with replies of little substance is unforgivable.

On this occasion, the prime minister should explain the present situation and problems of the government's crisis-management system in an understandable way, and specifically reveal the government's reform policies. Otherwise, apprehensions of the people, not to mention the victims of the great Hanshin earthquake, will grow.

Responses to the earthquake shed light on defects of bureaucratic sectionalism. Government agencies with disaster responsibilities include the Home Affairs Ministry for fire, the Construction Ministry for roads, the Transportation Ministry for railways, the Health and Welfare Ministry for water, and the Posts and Telecommunications Ministry.

Under the current system, the National Land Agency [NLA] is supposed to control all ministries and agencies comprehensively. However, the NLA itself is a hodge-podge organization. Its major job is to make comprehensive coordination. It is difficult for the agency to directly command and supervise each government agency. Moreover, the prime minister's office, which has the Internal-External Affairs and Security Offices under its control, should have the function of grasping national politics. However, the reality is that it only plays the role of an intermediary between government ministries and agencies at a time of drawing up bills. It is hard to expect the NLA to assist the prime minister in an emergency.

The government's crisis-management system is poor and Kaifu, who has served as prime minister, should be well aware of that. If so, it will be necessary for the ruling and opposition parties to coolly discuss measures to improve the government's crisis-management system.

In the case of the United States, the "Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)" was established by consolidating and integrating emergency management functions in 1979. We hope that, while using the example of another country as reference, the Diet will discuss how the government's crisis-management system should be structured. It is very sad to see only grandstand plays or exchanges of heckling in the Diet.

SANKEI SHIMBUN Criticizes

OW2701005095 Tokyo SANKEI SHIMBUN in Japanese 25 Jan 95 Morning Edition p 2

[Editorial: "Prime Minister Murayama's Tenuous Sense of Responsibility"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Diet deliberations have begun, while full-scale restoration operations have been launched in Kobe and other areas destroyed by the Great Hanshin Earthquake. The Japanese people, especially quake victims, are now keeping an eye on the government's handling of the disaster. Despite this, Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama has already made comments that could rub quake victims the wrong way.

As far as the remarks he made during the Diet session are concerned, we can only say that the government lacks crisis control ability and the prime minister is not prepared to take responsibility as the nation's supreme commander.

When Toshiki Kaifu, president of the Shinshinto [New Frontier Party], questioned the way the government responded to the killer quake, Murayama replied: "I would like to say, with confidence, that the measures we took were the best under the circumstances." The quake victims must have been dumbstruck listening to the prime minister's comments.

Just consider: Over 5,000 citizens were killed and more than 56,000 houses were toppled or burned. Among them, how many lives or property could have been saved if the government responded quickly and adequately. Picture this: A woman crying her eyes out about an "an old man buried under the rubble," and shattered citizens standing in front of burning houses with no water to stop the fire. Can the prime minister say to those people from the bottom of his heart that the government did "its best"?

The government was criticized most for its failure to dispatch the Self-Defense Forces [SDF] at an early stage. Regarding this point, Murayama said: "Bureaucrats in quake-stricken areas are also victims." This comment could be taken as an excuse for the government's slow response.

But what the people really want to know is how the prime minister, who is the nation's supreme leader, reacted to this crisis. Why did he not summon ministers concerned to his official residence at an early stage and promptly deal with the quake by ordering an immediate SDF dispatch to quake-hit areas?

Murayama said the government "did its best." Without soul searching over the government's measures to deal with the disaster, to the people, the prime minister's explanation sounds like nothing but an excuse to escape his responsibilities.

Former Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone contributed an article entitled: "The Great Disaster and Politics of Crisis Control" to SANKEI SHIMBUN. While discussing the Hanshin Earthquake in the article, he says: "The formation of a disaster-relief system is the major part of a supreme political mission and the most important task that tests Japan's crisis management capacity." Recognition of this fact is what the Murayama cabinet lacks most. The prime minister has been advocating the concept of "people-friendly politics." However, this cannot be achieved if the government cannot take brave measures to protect the people's lives and property when facing emergency situations. Otherwise, the adjective "people-friendly" sounds empty.

Bills Planned for Aid to Quake-Hit Region

OW2701005995 Tokyo KYODO in English 0015 GMT 27 Jan 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, Jan. 27 KYODO—The Japanese Government plans new legislation, if necessary, to assist the restoration of Kobe and other areas in western Japan devastated by the Jan. 17 earthquake, the minister in charge of quake relief operations said late Thursday [26 January].

Sadatoshi Ozato told a hastily called press conference that a special project team has been formed within the government to look into the issue.

Chief Cabinet Secretary Kozo Igarashi said later at a separate press conference that it remains open to discussion whether or not a new law should be considered for each of measures separately to both promote reconstruction and tighten building standards, or whether instead some laws should be introduced simultaneously as a comprehensive package of measures.

Deputy Chief Cabinet Secretary Nobuo Ishihara earlier in the day met vice ministers and urged a review of existing legislation to discover what is needed to rebuild the quake-ravaged area as smoothly as possible.

The government intends to draft urgently needed bills and present them to the current Diet session by the end of next month, officials said.

Restrictions on Individual Land Ownership Proposed

OW2601144995 Tokyo KYODO in English 1407 GMT 26 Jan 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, Jan. 26 KYODO— Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama on Thursday [26 January] proposed imposing some restrictions on individual ownership of land in the quake-hit areas in western Japan to facilitate effective disaster prevention measures.

For a new city planning to make the area more resilient to earthquakes and other disasters, "it may be necessary to restrict individual rights (on property) to a certain extent," Murayama said before the House of Representatives Budget Committee.

His remarks were made in response to a question about the proposed special legislation to deal with the huge damage caused by the Jan. 17 powerful earthquake that

demolished some major cities in the western Japanese Kansai region and left more than 5,000 dead.

Murayama also said at the committee meeting that he will enhance the information collecting system for crisis management by reviewing the information-gathering networks.

He was responding to questions by Yukio Hatoyama of new party Sakigake [Harbinger], one of the three parties that constitute the ruling coalition, which also includes Murayama's Social Democratic Party.

Murayama, however, brushed aside a proposal by Hiroshi Nikaido of the opposition Shinshinto [New Frontier Party] that emergency management headquarters be set up.

MOF Considers Higher Limit on Insurance Payouts

OW2501140295 Tokyo KYODO in English 1106 GMT 25 Jan 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, Jan. 25 KYODO—The Finance Ministry [MOF] is considering how to raise the upper limit on insurance benefits to victims of future earthquakes in the face of a barrage of criticism that quake-related coverage has been poor for those who suffered in the Jan. 17 quake, ministry officials said Wednesday [25 January].

Finance Minister Masayoshi Takemura told the House of Representatives Finance Committee on Wednesday, "I will instruct relevant ministry sections to consider improving (the earthquake insurance mechanism) now that the latest earthquake has generated strong calls for new products."

His remarks were immediately taken by industry observers as implying the ministry's readiness to consider a possible rise in the permitted upper limits for nonlife insurance payouts, and an extension of the range of insurance products.

The effects of the Great Hanshin Earthquake have triggered complaints that current insurance policies which offer maximum payments of 10 million yen per quake-hit home cannot provide enough relief to restore homes badly damaged or destroyed by earthquakes or the fires which follow them.

The ministry is considering a proposal to double the sum for payouts to 20 million yen, but the proposal, if adopted, might entail a 100% increase in premiums, according to the officials.

One of the ministry's chief concerns is, therefore, how to hold down possible increases in premiums through holding close consultations with the insurance industry, they said.

The government authorized the marketing of earthquake insurance products from 1966. However, before the

disaster Jan. 17, companies agreed to underwrite only earthquake insurance taken out at the same time as fire insurance and attached to such policies.

This requirement was scrapped the day after the quake which devastated Kobe and surrounding areas in western Japan.

However, insurers are still only allowed to offer eartiquake insurance payouts which do not exceed the "30 to 50%" of the maximum benefits mandated by fire insurance contracts. Thus, the coverage for each policy is limited to 10 million yen for homes and 5 million yen for household goods such as furniture.

The current system is designed to provide nonlife insurance companies with a hedge against the high risks and resulting large payouts in Japan, dubbed the land of earthquakes, the officials said.

But statistics from the Marine and Fire Insurance Association of Japan show that only 7.2% of Japanese households are insured against earthquakes. In the case of the quake-crippled Hyogo Prefecture, the corresponding figure was a mere 3.0%, and in nearby Osaka it was 4.9%.

A typical policyholder living, for example, in a wooden house in Tokyo, has so far had to pay up to 47,500 yen as an annual premium for earthquake insurance.

Such high premiums have scared away a great majority of the Japanese from taking out such insurances, according to the industry observers.

In a related development, Mitsui Marine and Fire Insurance Co. Japan's third largest nonlife insurer, said it has begun paying earthquake insurance benefits to the victims of the Jan. 17 quake.

The company said it has received 1,500 claims for payments. It has completed damage appraisals of 300 of these and has so far agreed to pay a total of 44 million yen in 34 cases, it added.

No Limit on Extra Budgeting for Reconstruction
OW2701113695 Tokyo KYODO in English 1035 GMT
27 Jan 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, Jan. 27 KYODO— Finance Minister Masayoshi Takemura said Friday [27 January] the government will not curtail relief measures for reconstruction of quake-damaged western Japan on grounds of fiscal constraints for extra budgeting.

Takemura said at a House of Representatives' Budget Committee session, "we have no intention to set a certain limit in terms of fiscal scale" for another fiscal 1994 supplementary budget.

"We will do our best to complete it as soon as possible,"
Takemura said, indicating the government will hasten to
compile the extra budget for quake measures.

Meanwhile, Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama stressed the government's positive stance toward a supplementary budget for fiscal 1995, starting April 1, to expedite full-scale reconstruction of Kobe and its vicinity.

Given the area's need to resume production and ensure a stable foundation for life as soon as possible, financial help is important, Murayama said.

"So, we will promptly consider a fiscal 1995 extra budget as well," he said.

On the quake's possible effect on Japan's economy, Economic Planning Agency Director General Masahiko Komura said, "I don't think it will immediately become impossible to attain the government's projection of 2.8 percent growth in gross domestic product for fiscal 1995."

Although production and distribution may suffer for some time, steady implementation of reconstruction measures will have a positive impact on the entire economy, Komura said.

Business Leaders Seek Reconstruction Bonds

OW2601140595 Tokyo KYODO in English 1149 GMT 26 Jan 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, Jan. 26 KYODO— Leaders of the ruling coalition parties and opposition parties, as well as industrial leaders, are seeking the issuance of reconstruction bonds to finance the rebuilding of western Japan devastated by last week's earthquake.

"To rebuild a stricken area into disaster-resistant cities, it isn't enough to issue just construction bonds. Their uses are too limited," said one ruling party official.

He and other advocates say reconstruction bonds will be necessary to provide Kobe and its vicinity with a strong telecommunications information foundation and to help in low-interest government financing for small and medium-size firms.

They say it is not enough to issue the traditional construction bonds, whose issuance is limited to financing for public works such as roads, ports and bridges. Reconstruction bonds were issued after the great Kanto earthquake in 1923.

However, officials at the Finance Ministry are expressing caution toward the idea of issuing what they say will effectively be "deficit-financing bonds that will put the financial order out of balance."

At the House of Representatives Budget Committee on Thursday, Finance Minister Masayoshi Takemura said while all possible financing measures must be seriously considered, "we have to think whether there are ways other than issuing bonds."

Takemura Rules Out Deficit-Covering Bonds

OW2701010495 Tokyo KYODO in English 0057 GMT 27 Jan 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, Jan. 27 KYODO— Finance Minister Masayoshi Takemura on Friday ruled out issuing deficit-covering bonds to finance emergency measures for damage by the Jan. 17 earthquake in western Japan.

Takemura said at a news conference after a regular cabinet meeting, "we have no plan to issue deficit-covering bonds as our basic finance stance is to avoid such bond issues at all costs."

There is a way to issue construction bonds to finance public works for reconstruction in the quake-hit areas, Takemura said. Except deficit-financing bonds, the government will use every possible financial means, including such construction bond issues, in compiling another supplementary budget for quake measures, he said.

Asked about the possibility of issuing special government bonds for rehabilitation and reconstruction of quake-devastated Kobe and vicinity, Takemura said, "we are not at a stage to make a positive reply." Takemura pointed to the need for consideration of possible impact on the ordinary bond market in issuing such unique bonds.

He said the government is studying special legislation to help reconstruction in the quake-stricken region but has yet to work out specific ideas.

Turning to a meeting of finance officials from the group of seven (G-7) industrialized nations scheduled for Feb. 3-4 in Canada, Takemura said financial aid for Mexico, hit by a currency crisis, and a report on the quake around Kobe will be on the agenda.

Kobe's Reconstruction Can Promote Recovery

OW2701123095 Tokyo KYODO in English 1151 GMT 27 Jan 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Fukuoka, Jan. 27 KYODO—A Japanese business leader said Friday [27 January] that reconstruction of the city of Kobe, hit by last week's devastating earthquake, can be the start of a Japanese version of a "New Deal" program to promote economic recovery.

Takeshi Nagano, president of the Japan Federation of Employers Associations (Nikkeiren), said in a press conference here he believes reconstructing Kobe into a model city for antidisaster measures will be "a starting point for launching a Japanese version of a "New Deal."

Nagano said the big 1994 earthquake in Los Angeles turned out to be the beginning of economic recovery in the United States. But he admitted Japan's economy vill probably experience a setback for a while.

Regarding measures taken by the government in reaction to the earthquake, Nagano said, "though there is criticism that the government's action was delayed, I think it was in part inevitable."

Concerning Nikkeiren policy, he said management will offer no annual pay hike this spring, adding that this stance is unlikely to add further burden to quake victims.

He said measures to provide relief for the survivors are one thing needing to be carried out right away, while the freezing of wages hike is quite another.

Ministry To Review Countermeasures for Banks

OW2701111595 Tokyo KYODO in English 0938 GMT

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, Jan. 27 KYODO—The Finance Ministry, in response to last week's major earthquake in western Japan, will make a sweeping review of disaster countermeasures needed for financial institutions, ministry officials said Friday [27 January].

The officials said the ministry will also launch a survey of risk management precautions taken by banks and other institutions across the nation.

The powerful Jan. 17 quake wreaked havoc on the banking institutions of the Osaka-Kobe area, paralyzing on-line computer systems of the nation's second most important financial and business center.

The disaster is prompting financial institutions to establish a new financing system to withstand major disasters.

The Federation of Bankers Associations of Japan said banking operations in the quake-ravaged area remained paralyzed for at least three days although the interbank data communications system was unaffected.

The quake prevented shinkin banks (credit associations) in the region from restoring operations for eight to nine days, the federation said.

The ministry officials said a new guideline for banking institutions to cope with major disasters, including the establishment of a communication backup system, will be prepared by the ministry.

Ozawa Criticizes Murayama's Actions on Quake OW2701094395 Tokyo KYODO in English 0925 GMT 27 Jan 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, Jan. 27 KYODO—A senior leader of the opposition Shinshinto (New Frontier Party) slammed Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama on Friday [27 January] for his alleged slow and uncoordinated response to the Jan. 17 temblor in western Japan.

"The government should be to blame if it really failed to deal with the quake in an effective manner," Shinshinto Secretary General Ichiro Ozawa said at a news conference.

The criticism is an implicit call for Murayama's resignation to take responsibility for the poor response, although Ozawa said he is not in a position to press the demand.

"As the cabinet is a political group, it should make judgments itself over whether to accept political responsibility," he said.

Shinshinto, the big opposition party formed last month, has been bombarding the Murayama administration with criticism of its slow and ineffective response following the quake that killed more than 5,000 people in and around the port city of Kobe.

Murayama, who leads the tripartite coalition government, has acknowledged early confusion, but also touted his administration's ensuing efforts to help the victims and rehabilitate the stricken areas.

On calls from the ruling camp for an early general election, Ozawa said that all Shinshinto can do is to make the necessary preparations in order to perform well when the poll is held.

Kaifu Gives 'Policy Speech' at Diet Session

OW2701003195 Tokyo NIHON KEIZAI SHIMBUN in Japanese 24 Jan 95 Morning Edition p 2

[FBIS Translated Text] At the representative interpellation at the Diet session on 23 January, New Frontier Party [NFP] President Toshiki Kaifu did not seek replies from the government, but instead, gave an "opposition policy speech" embodying the NFP's proposals. However, he did question the administration's disaster relief operations for the Osaka-Kobe earthquake.

In the end, he failed to achieve his original aim of "demonstrating [the NFP's] ability to hold the reins of government." Even NFP members criticized Kaifu's "half-baked" method.

The NFP intends to take advantage of the mood of "giving top priority to earthquake relief measures" in the Diet from now on to seize the initiative in Diet debates and to adopt an aggressive stance toward the government and the ruling parties by vigorously questioning the administration's inadequacies in its earthquake measures and in the crisis management system.

After his speech, Kaifu sang his own praises for this first-ever attempt by an opposition party, saying: "We presented responsible counterproposals." On the previous day, he had assembled the NFP leadership, including Secretary General Ichiro Ozawa, in a hotel in Tokyo to hear briefings from senior officials of the government ministries. The final draft of his speech took until 0330 in the morning to finish, and he had stepped up to the podium with self-confidence.

In particular, he proposed the following as the centerpiece in his effort to demonstrate the NFP's position on reform: 1) merging of the Ministry of Finance and the Economic Planning Agency; and 2) complete abolition of special public corporations, in principle, within five years. These proposals were kept secret until immediately before he made the speech, and were not even discussed with the NFP executive council.

With regard to earthquake relief operations, Kaifu sternly criticized Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama, saying: "If the government had responded promptly, many valuable lives would have been saved." "It has become clear that the Murayama cabinet is not even able to perform its minimal duty of safeguarding the people's lives and properties."

Despite Kaifu's statement that he required no response, Murayama said, "Although this is not a question, but an expression of opinion, I would like to say a few words." He argued that the earthquake relief measures "were the best possible."

Secretary General Yoshiro Mori of the Liberal Democratic Party, who took the floor after Kaifu, voiced the criticism that, "making a one-sided policy speech is a self-righteous authoritarian method."

In contrast, when NFP Vice President Takashi Yonezawa, who made an "opposition financial policy speech," questioned the government's response to the earthquake disaster, Murayama asserted that "this is not a question," and refused to reply.

In view of this attitude of the administration and the ruling parties, even NFP members admit that, "if the earthquake is to be given top priority, [the administration] should be grilled thoroughly on the issue of crisis management."

At the executive committee of the lower house Committee on Rules and Administration on 23 January, the NFP had formally submitted a draft Diet resolution asking for special legislation [to deal with the earthquake isaster]. Since the ruling parties have also shown a positive attitude toward the resolution, the NFP believes that "the ruling parties will not be able to resist earthquake relief measures that we will propose."

At the lower house Budget Committee's special deliberations devoted to the earthquake scheduled for 26 January, the NFP intends to point out that the administration's lack of seriousness in dealing with the disaster by noting that: 1) on the day after the earthquake, the prime minister attended a breakfast meeting with business leaders; and 2) likewise, the minister of transport went to Aomori Prefecture to campaign in the gubernatorial election.

Kaifu's EPA-MOF Integration Proposal Criticized OW2701043395 Tokyo KYODO in English 0312 GMT 27 Jan 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, Jan. 27 KYODO—The Economic Planning Agency (EPA) chief Friday [27 January] blasted an opposition leader's proposal to unify the

EPA and the Minisitry of Finance [MOF] for carrying the risk of strengthening administrative powers of Finance Ministry bureaucrats.

EPA Director General Masahiko Komura made the comment at a news conference in response to Monday's proposal by Shinshinto (New Frontier Party) leader Toshiki Kaifu during a House of Representatives plenary session.

Kaifu urged Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama's cabinet to integrate the EPA and the ministry in line with its avowed policy of paring down the bloated bureaucracy, while demanding a merger of the Science and Technology Agency, and the Education Ministry.

However, Komura said, "It would go against the direction (of the present age) to boost the powers of the Finance Ministry even further."

Komura said he is puzzled by Kaifu's proposal and wondered if it was made on the basis of Shinshinto's unified official policy stand on the integration matter.

"I am puzzled as I am not sure whether we should take (the Kaifu proposal) seriously and do not know whether (Shinshinto) has approved the proposal as the party's unified stand," he said.

LDP Rejects Hirai's Resignation, Expels Him

OW2701095095 Tokyo KYODO in English 0836 GMT 27 Jan 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, Jan. 27 KYODO—The Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) refused to accept the resignation from the party of one of its legislators in the House of Councillors and expelled him Friday [27 January], LDP officials said.

The LDP's Party Ethics Committee decided on the ouster of Takushi Hirai, a former labor minister, saying he violated party ethics by abruptly submitting the notice to leave the party and criticizing the LDP for allegedly losing its reformist spirit.

It is the first time for the LDP, the largest component in the tripartite coalition government of Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama, to expel a Diet member who wanted to quit the party, they said.

The LDP will inform the upper house Secretariat next Monday that Hirai is no longer in the party's parliamentary bloc.

Hirai is expected to join the opposition Shinshinto [New Frontier Party], political sources said.

* Parties Debate Issue of Constitution Revision

* Gotoda Opposes Revision

952B0060A Tokyo MAINICHI SHIMBUN in Japanese 18 Nov 94 p 2

[Interview with former Justice Minister Masaharu Gotoda by MAINICHI SHIMBUN reporter Hitoshi Okabe, political desk; place and date not given]

[FBIS Translated Text] In addition to the propriety of realizing "an independent revision of the current Constitution," which is in the platform of the Liberal Democratic Party [LDP], being debated in the LDP's Basic Issues Research Committee, the YOMIURI SHIMBUN published at the beginning of this month "a test proposal to revise the Constitution." Policy Research Council chairman Masaharu Gotoda, a former deputy prime minister and minister of justice, in the capacity of representing the party's "group to safeguard the Constitution," was asked about the political situation concerning the Constitution.

Exercise of Military Force Overseas Is Unconstitutional

[Okabe] What do you think about the coalition regime of the LDP and the Social Democratic Party of Japan [SDPJ], which has changed its Self-Defense Forces [SDF] policy and other basic policies on the Constitution issue?

[Gotoda] I also was bewildered about the three-party coalition of the LDP, the SDPJ, and Sakigake [Harbinger]. In the era of LDP-SDPJ opposition, however, the LDP anticipated SDPJ policies in order to protect the liberal system in domestic political aspects and realize an egalitarian society. There is no great disparity in domestic political aspects. The disparity between the two parties has been the unproductive opposition concerning foreign affairs, security, and defense policy backed by ideology. An LDP-SDPJ regime is not surprising at all when you see that the SDPJ is changing policy with (Prime Minister Tomiichi) Murayama appointed to the seat of power. I even think that it is an inevitable trend in the flow of Japanese politics.

[Okabe] Has the dichotomy in public opinion on the Constitution disappeared?

[Gotoda] That aspect has disappeared. I have been involved with the SDF since its establishment, but having armed troops who form the nucleus of general national resistance and resist unlawful aggression by another country is the natural right of an independent nation. That must be the minimum necessary. There were many people in the nation who thought it strange in the beginning, but have come to accept the existence of the SDF. There is also the view that armament is not the minimum, but the view holds that the extent of SDF conventional weapons is the minimum. The people have gradually come to that view.

Article 9 Should Not Be Revised

[Gotoda] Considering the constitutional interpretation controversy, the SDF is probably unconstitutional if interpreted grammatically. Unless a flexible interpretation is made, however, only the Constitution will fall behind the times. Since the Japanese Constitution is a rigid constitution, it must be interpreted flexibly. In that case, interpretation limitations must be considered. If an unprincipled expanded interpretation is made, it

becomes like not having a constitution. Limitations, in other words, are the constitutional beliefs of the people. They are the norm consciousness of the people, the consent of the people. The SDF, which is approved by 80 percent of the people today, is constitutional under constitutional interpretation. There has been debate about revising the Constitution, but iy is not hindered by the present Constitution. Of course, if it exceeds the scope of public consent, there would be revision of the Constitution. There is no need to exceed that scope now.

[Okabe] How far does the "interpretation limitation" go?

[Gotoda] Personally, I think that it would be going overseas in the exercise of military power. If this were done, many people probably would have a negative opinion on the existence of the SDF at the present point in time. The people accept the SDF today as being exclusively defensive. Military contributions and the exercise of military power overseas are characteristic of it.

Being in charge of the transport of weapons and ammunition or troops is not a military contribution, nor does it form logistics support. Unless clear rules are established, I believe that both the people and the various neighboring countries will be uneasy.

Aim Is "International Symbiosis"

[Okabe] There is also the "normal nation" theory of Ichiro Ozawa, representative secretary general of Shinseito [Japan Renewal Party].

[Gotoda] If the SDF goes abroad and exercises military power, its character will change and clash with the Constitution. I am opposed to inserting PKO (UN peacekeeping operations) including PKF (UN peacekeeping forces) as a duty in Article 3 of the SDF Law. It is fine under the additional duties in Article 99 or Article 100 of the SDF Law.

[Okabe] There can be no participation in multinational forces either, can there?

[Gotoda] Being abie to do it is unreasonable. It is participation at the point of being about to fight. It cannot be done without revision of the Constitution.

[Okabe] Advocacy of constitutional revision is on one side.

[Gotoda] It is not right to change the Constitution indiscriminately. (Once it is changed,) it will come to be always changing. Closed single-nation pacificism is not good, but it is strange to think that it is one-state pacificism that will be eliminated unless a military contribution is made. It is the Japanese Constitution that assumes the positive meaning of why not revise the existing international framework centering on military force and make it a peaceful framework? It is inconceivable to think that we should act together with the strong military superpowers.

[Okabe] There also is the opinion that the Constitution will be the axis of opposition in the era when there are two major political parties.

[Gotoda] There should be none (opposition) on such a big issue. Since there is no ideological opposition, it will be issues of foreign and domestic policy in the future, stressing the producer or the consumer, big government or little government, or emphasizing centralized power or decentralization. Moreover, I have doubts whether there really will be two major parties.

[Okabe] Establishment of an independent constitution still appeared in the LDP platform at the time of the conservative alliance.

[Gotoda] The independent constitution means that, since MacArthur created it, we will recreate it. Those words now are reactionary or too old.

The basic doctrines of constitutional pacifism, democracy, international cooperation, and basic human rights are rooted in the people. There is no need to change these at all. What is lacking is whether there will be military cooperation overseas at some time or whether that be no good. What I want to talk about now is international symbiosis and international public values. There is much that we must do aiming at international symbiosis on issues such as the environment, hunger, population, refugees, and disease. How about making that the big new job of Japan? That can be done without revising the Constitution.

YOMIURI Test Proposal Went Too Far

[Okabe] The YOMIURI SHIMBUN has put out a test proposal on revising the Constitution.

[Gotoda] I think that it has gone too far. Writing about various controversies on their pages is the mission of a newspaper, but it is going too far for a newspaper company to present an opinion on revision pretending it to be a rough draft. Other newspapers who do not criticize that action should also be criticized.

There are issues in the Constitution which should have been debated during the 50-year period, but they are not problems that are hopeless unless it is revised now. The issue of Article 9 is still central. Preferably, it is not a situation that will now divide public opinion.

[Okabe] Those born before the war are wary about overseas dispatch of the SDF, but young people are not that way. Are you concerned that the Japanese will get carried away if the fetters of the Constitution are removed?

[Gotoda] There is that aspect. Perhaps it is a danger of the Japanese, but there is no one to say wait a minute in a general rally of all the people. I feel that there is a great danger there.

* Politicians Wary of Issue

952B0060B Tokyo MAINICHI SHIMBUN in Japanese 18 Nov 94 p 3

[Article by political reporters Hiroto Kosuge, Tomonaga Ito: "Concern Weak About 'Untouchable God""]

[FBIS Translated Text] "What, the Constitution?" Many Diet members have this response now when attention is directed at the Constitution. Concern is slight. Both the coalition ruling parties and the integrated party group "Kaikaku" [Renovation] of the former coalition forces view debate on the Constitution as a minus for maintaining the regime or creating the new-new party. That is because both feel the danger that the "glass castle" formed by political parties with different ideologies will collapse and fall the moment that constitutional debate centered on revision of Article 9 begins. The current constitutional controversy situation in the political world is explored.

No Moves

Over one month before the YOMIURI SHIMBUN published a test proposal on revision of the Constitution in its pages on 3 November, the contents had become a topic of conversation among the media, scholars, and intellectual groups.

In Nagata-cho, on the other hand... An influential officer of the Watanabe faction in the Liberal Democratic Party [LDP] says, "The possibility remains that former Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone and former Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe will institute some action with the Constitution as the axis for political reorganization by sympathizing with the test draft of the Constitution in the YOMIURI SHIMBUN. Watanabe has been sending many signs." The close relationship between Nakasone and YOMIURI SHIMBUN president Tsuneo Watanabe, and Michio Watanabe's moves to leave the party, which have not completely disappeared, are borne in mind.

However, Watanabe and others have not made the move although there has been a sense of wariness in some that it would develop into moves entangled with the political situation. Although the LDP has begun debate in the Basic Issues Research Committee (Masaharu Gotoda, chairman) on a review of "establishment of an independent Constitution" in the party platform, the actual situation is that "everyone has pulled back and they are not ready to touch the Constitution" (research committee member).

Now that the Social Democratic Party of Japan [SDPJ] has worked out the theory that the Self-Defense Forces [SDF] are constitutional, any debate on revision of the Constitution that might incite the SDPJ is "an untouchable god" to the LDP. Rather, a leading Diet member active in the LDP-SDPJ coalition even says, "It would be a great plus in the elections if the constitutional revisionists were to leave the party and get close to the new-new party."

The actual situation of "Kaikaku" is much the same. The Constitution became an agenda item in the Basic Policies Committee (Komeito Policy Board Chairman Chikara Sakaguchi, chairman) of the New Party Preparation Group. For starters, there are the issues of early release of UN peacekeeping force (PKF) participation that was frozen in the UN Peacekeeping Operations (PKO) Cooperation Law and "lifting the ban" on collective exercise of the right of self-defense that the government considers to be forbidden under the Constitution.

Various Parties Worry About Collapse of Cooperation

Komeito Diet members, however, are opposed to the proposition by Shinseito [Japan Renewal Party] Diet members, saying "The time is premature" and "Let's follow the government's view." They stress "constitutional debate," believing that "debate is not taboo and is necessary," and they consider removing the freeze on PKF as a topic for future study.

Standing at the forefront of speeches by the Shinseito are House of Councilor Diet members Shigeto Nagano and Hideaki Tamura who come from the SDF, but they are no more than "personal views." In the New Party Preparation Group Executive Committee, Ichiro Ozawa, Shinseito representative secretary general, and others have said almost nothing about the Constitution issue. Ultimately, the whole "Kaikaku" postponed debate on the Constitution in an atmosphere where "It's a lost cause to come out strongly on the Constitution in the present political situation" (Shinseito official).

Advance Expectations

From the end of the year before last to spring of last year was a time when constitutional debate swept Nagatacho.

As a basic policy in the establishment of the party, the Japan New Party announced the view of "safeguarding a revised Constitution." They advocated a review of the Constitution with the sympathy of Hiroshi Mitsuzuka, chairman (at the time) of the LDP Policy Research Council; and Sadao Yamahana of the SDPJ cited "a creative Constitution," considering "development of a standpoint safeguarding the Constitution and an effort at creative development." Secretary General Yuichi Ichikawa of Komeito promptly proclaimed, "We do not see Article 9 as taboo and will begin constitutional debate within the party."

However, they all disappeared within the whirlpool of the political situation.

A member of Yamahana's staff says that the aim of "a creative Constitution" was "a tactic to convert the basic policy of the party on security and the SDF to a realistic course borrowing the form of proposing constitutional debate." Now that policy conversion has been accomplished in a different form in exchange for "the seat of prime minister," it is no longer necessary.

Amidst the "Kaikaku" mood, the constitutional views of the LDP and Komeito had a strong side aspect of being used to maneuver the political situation. While still not a full-scale dispute between the majority and opposition parties, it was swallowed in the turbulent political situation with withdrawal of the bill on political reform dissolution of the House of Representatives, and change of regimes, and it remains lost.

Destructive Power

Debate on the Constitution itself has not been conducted within Komeito since Ichikawa made the proclamation. The LDP has debated it in the party's Constitution Research Committee, but the report coincided with the passage of the no-confidence motion on the Miyazawa cabinet and it did not become a topic of discussion.

At the same time as the "creative Constitution" theory, Kenji Yoshioka, representative of the "Action New Democracy" (AND) rightist legislator group of the SDPJ, which even had prepared a draft outline for a "Basic Security Law," pointed out that "Since we have changed basic policy, the party properly speaking should begin study on conformity with the Constitution." That AND also is in a state of stopped activities.

"If the Ichi-Ichi alliance [Ichiro Ozawa and Yuichi Ichikawa] don't like it, we should call for "constitutional revision." Previous Komeito chairman Junya Yano stated thus at a meeting of the SDPJ legislator group "Democracy" in May 1994. He pointed out that the words "constitutional revision" have "destructive power."

Shinseito permanent secretary general Keisuke Nakanishi says that "A review of the PKF freeze will become
the focus and it cannot avoid constitutional debate. If
the Constitution becomes the axis, political reorganization also must be readjusted." However, there are many
legislators who also point out the danger of placing the
Constitution as the axis of future reorganization and it is
doubtful whether constitutional revision can have centripetal force in the political world.

Cabinet To 'Press' on With Administrative Reform

OW2301091495 Tokyo KYODO in English 0842 GMT 23 Jan 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, Jan. 23 KYODO—The government of Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama will press ahead with the streamlining of the nation's powerful bureaucracy as scheduled, a government spokesman said Monday [24 January].

"We would like to push ahead according to the plan we previously set," Chief Cabinet Secretary Kozo Igarashi said at a news conference.

Igarashi reiterated that there is no change in the scheme under which government ministries and agencies are to

come up with specific measures to review publicly funded corporations Feb. 10.

Murayama has placed administrative reform as the top priority for his cabinet with a vow that his government will complete a review of such special public corporations by the end of March.

Igarashi said the government will strive to achieve its goal of cutting bureaucratic red tape despite the massive earthquake in western Japan last week.

Some special public corporations which were considered vulnerable before the quake, which killed nearly 5,000 people, may now be saved because they will have to take charge of rehabilitating the stricken area.

Public Corporation Reduction Plan Proposed

OW2601140495 Tokyo KYODO in English 1304 GMT 26 Jan 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, Jan. 26 KYODO—The ruling parties' project team on administrative reforms has decided to propose the government reduce the number of public corporations by about 10, from 92 to 82, mainly through merger, party sources said Thursday [26 January].

The sources said the ruling parties and the government have already agreed that six public corporations—two each under the control of the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI), the Transport Ministry and the Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Ministry—merge into three corporations.

The six are Coal Mine Damage Corp., the New Energy and Industrial Technology Development Organization, Maritime Credit Corp., the Railway Development Fund, the Japan Raw Silk and Sugar Price Stabilization Agency and Livestock Industry Promotion Corp.

No agreement has been reached as yet, however, on the proposed privatization of two public corporations, Japan Development Bank and Housing and Urban Development Corp., the sources said.

The project team plans to finalize its public corporations reduction proposal before a final reduction report on Feb. 10 by the ministries and agencies.

Personnel Changes in Business Circles Previewed OW2401063095 Tokyo SHUKAN DAIYAMONDO in Japanese 28 Jan 95 Issue p 17

[FBIS Translated Text] This year will be a year of many personnel changes for top posts in the business circles. First, Masaru Hayami, chairman of the Japanese Association of Corporate Executives [JACE], is to finish up his second four-year term in April. A hopeful candidate to succeed him is Jiro Ushio, JACE vice chairman and chairman of Ushio Inc.

Ushio is controversialist. He has long been expected to be a man who works as a support and driving force for the future of JACE. However, his involvement in the Recruit stock-for-favors scandal has obliged him to maintain a low profile for a while, until he is rewarded with an absolution. Now appraisal given to him is: "With having a sense of remorse over his involvement in the scandal, he has become a man of high caliber. He is now fully capable of leading the JACE," (as stated by a top business official). This is the case of making the best of a bad bargain.

It seems the time is ripe for Ushio to assume the top post.

Meanwhile, it is not recently that the Japan Federation of Employers' Associations [JFEA] has begun to consider Ken Moroi, chairman of Chichibu Onoda Cement Corp., to be a successor to JFEA Chairman Takeshi Nagano. Like Ushio, Moroi also made a mess of it for his involvement in the Recruit scandal. However, he has a good family background: His father served as JFEA chairman after the war ended. In addition, Moroi, in his mid-sixties, is now in the prime of life as a businessman. However, it is to be regretted that his company is not a high-ranking firm. If Moroi refuses an offer to become the next JFEA chairman, it will then be unclear who will succeed Nagano.

In this case, Yutaka Kume, vice chairman of the Japan Federation of Economic Organizations [JFEO] and chairman of Nissan Motor Co., will be brought to the fore as a candidate. He has proposed the restructuring of the JFEO and has won fame as a "man of firm character in the business world." He is one of the few business leaders who can say to politicians whatever they have to say. There is a strong voice calling for Kume to assume the top post of the JFEA to invigorate the business circles. However, Kume is said to be worried about his company's unexceptional business results. Thus, he may also turn down the offer.

There will be twists and turns before the JFEA decides on the next chairman.

By May, Shoichiro Toyoda will serve a year as JFEO chairman and three vice chairmen will serve out their second, four-year term. Currently, attention has been focused on whether or not these three vice chairmen will serve another term. Particular attention is on Isao Nakauchi, chairman of Daiei, Inc. Nakauchi has become a figure who can represent the JFEO following his proposals for administrative reform and price slashing. Many expect him to serve another term as vice chairman. The selection of new JFEO vice chairmen will continually draw attention.

Food Self-Sufficiency Falls Further in 1993

OW2601105795 Tokyo KYODO in English 1003 GMT 26 Jan 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, Jan. 26 KYODO— Japan's self-sufficiency in food dropped in fiscal 1993

due to a bad harvest, continuing to keep the country lagging behind other industrialized countries in self-sufficiency, the farm ministry said Thursday [26 January].

The self-sufficiency rate in calories fell 9 percentage points from the preceding year to 37 percent, while that in grain (combining food and feed) dropped 7 percentage points to 22 percent, the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries said.

The rate of self-reliance in rice dropped 26 percentage points to 75 percent. The unusually rainy, cold weather in the summer of 1993 made for a poor harvest, forcing the country to make emergency imports.

Self-sufficiency in flour slipped 2 percentage points to 10 percent, while that in fruit slumped 5 percentage points to 54 percent, and that in meat decreased 1 percentage point to 64 percent.

On a calorie basis, Japan's self-sufficiency in carbohydrates accounted for 57.3 percent of the total, while protein made up for 13.5 percent and fat 29.1 percent.

MPT To Develop Satellite Communications Network

OW2101091995 Tokyo NIHON KEIZAI SHIMBUN in Japanese 17 Jan 95 Morning Edition p 1

[FBIS Translated Text] The Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications [MPT] has decided to begin developing the next generation of satellite communications network, to be capable of transmitting data from large computers and high-quality video. The MPT decided to embark on the development of the system after concluding that the network would be indispensable for alleviating the congestion of ground wire circuits and for building information networks in developing countries. The MPT will ask the Telecommunications Technology Council (an advisory body to the posts and telecommunications minister) to shape technical standards for the satellite communications network when the council holds a meeting on 23 January. The MPT intends to make the development of the satellite communications network a key project in its budget beginning in 1996 after consulting with the ministries and agencies concerned. The industrial and financial circles have promoted a strategy to develop an optical-fiber communications network and the MPT's move to develop the satellite communications network is likely to lead the circles to alter their strategy.

The new satellite communications network which the MPT intends to develop will be capable of transmitting data and pictures at a speed of 1-2 gigabytes per second. Its capability is about 10-100 times that of the ground digital communications technology that is used by the Nippon Telegraph and Telephone Corporation (NTT) and other telecommunications firms. The new satellite communications network will be capable of transmitting the equivalent of a month's worth of a standard newspaper in a second or two. The satellite communications

network will serve to launch electronic libraries that can be used at home, and a remote-controlled medical system that requires high-quality pictures.

For the new satelli e communications network to be used practically, the MPT will ask the Telecommunications Technology Council to study ways to divide the role of the research and development team, map out a schedule for the development, and shape internationally acceptable technical standards.

The MPT plans to set up a "survey and research council on high-speed satellite communications" in early February as a private advisory body to the chief of the MPT's Communication Policy Bureau. The MPT plans to ask the group to study policy assistance in the development and research concerning the use of communications technology and systems. The MPT is saying that, upon receiving a report from the council in May or June this year, it will develop its budgetary requests after 1996 for the development of the new satellite communications network. The MPT intends to get the next-generation satellite communications network off the ground within ten years.

U.S. Vice President Al Gore announced the U.S. blueprint for an information super highway in September 1993. In response, the MPT decided to place the highest priority on the development of an optical fiber communications network. The United States, however, has been placing its priority on the development of not only an optical fiber communications network, but also satellite and mobile communications networks. In November 1994 Japan and the United States agreed on the testing of satellite communications. The satellite used by Japan in the test lags far behind that of the United States in size and capability.

North Korea

Daily Reacts to ROK Rejection of Conference

SK2701101595 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1005 GMT 27 Jan 95

["South Korean Authorities Warned To Act With Discretion"—KCNA headline]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, January 27 (KCNA)—The joint meeting of the political parties and organisations of the DPRK held on January 24 proposed to grandly celebrate the 50th anniversary of the country's liberation on a nationwide scale and have a great national conference in which representatives of all parties, groupings and people from all walks of life at home and abroad participate. To this proposal, the vice-minister of "unification" of South Korea in a "statement" on January 25 said that the great national conference "can never be accepted" because it is a "united front formula" and a joint festivity of August 15 should be discussed through "dialogue between authorities".

Commenting on this, NODONG SINMUN today says:

For the South Korean authorities to say negative words even before representatives of the political parties, organisations and people from all walks of life in South Korea, to whom the proposal was made, express their opinion is an indiscreet act of those who do not mind their p's and q's, destitute of common sense.

The paper recalls that the political parties and organisations of the North sent an appeal with a patriotic proposal to the political parties, organisations and Koreans of all social strata in South Korea and overseas.

The news analyst continues:

This time the puppet unification board impudently uttered nonsensical words about others' affairs, putting away political parties and organisations of South Korea. This only shows how far the fascist arbitrariness of the present ruling group disguised as the "civil government" and their authoritarianism have gone.

While supporting in words the matter of a joint festivity of August 15, the South Korean authorities objected to the great national conference, alleging that it is a "united front formula." This is a self-contradictory logic negating a joint celebration of the 50th anniversary of the liberation of the country itself. And it means they fundamentally oppose the contact and dialogue between the North and south.

Their objection to our patriotic initiative which they term a "united front formula" makes us see that their position toward dialogue and reunification remains little different from that of the former military dictators, although they pay lip-service to "reform," "globalisation" and the like.

The attitude of the South Korean authorities revealed in their "statement" is an anti-reunification and antinational crime which is going against the trend of the times and the desire of the nation.

They acted rashly, feeling ill at ease, fearful that our patriotic initiative should have an influence on the broad people and figures of all walks of life in South Korea. Such act, however, is not beneficial to themselves. Anxiety to do what is not necessary is harmful.

We seriously warn that the South Korean authorities must act with discretion, clearly mindful of their position.

Paper Denounces 'Plot-Breeding Den' in ROK SK2501110295 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1006 GMT 25 Jan 95

["Plot-Breeding Den Must Be Blasted"—KCNA headline]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, January 25 (KCNA)—The newly-appointed "minister of the Agency for National Security Planning" (ANSP) of South Korea

in a "report" submitted to the "Intelligence Committee of the National Assembly" admitted that Pack Hung-yong who threw a revealing light on the fabrication of the "brother and sister spyring case" is an agent of the "ANSP" but said that he is not related to the "case" and it is not a "fabrication".

Commenting on this, MINJU CHOSON today says this does not mean frankness of the "minister of the ANSP" or its change but shows the unjust doings of the "ANSP" which addicts itself to falsity and fabrication.

The news analyst says:

It was exposed through Paek Hung-yong's declaration of conscience that he played a leading role in concocting the "brother and sister spyring case". But the denial of its fabrication reminds us of the ostrich policy.

The puppets admitted that Paek Hung-yong was an agent of the "ANSP" with the assertion that he was not related to the "brother and sister spyring case" in a bid to spread a rumor that the case was not invented by the "ANSP".

But such ill-natured gossip does not go down with anyone. This only proves that the puppets intend to frame up plots as ever, calming down the demands of the people for a probe into the truth behind the case and the dissolution of the "ANSP".

The traitor Kim Yong-sam has invented many false cases and aggravated the North-South relations.

The South Korean people must more powerfully turn out in the struggle to overthrow the traitor Kim Yong-sam and dissolve the "ANSP".

Lack of Military Discipline in ROK Criticized

SK2501110495 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1031 GMT 25 Jan 95

["Signs of Downfall of Puppet Regime"—KCNA headline]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, January 25 (KCNA)—The continued breach of military discipline within the South Korean puppet army is causing a public stir.

Commenting on this, NODONG SINMUN today says that this shows signs of the downfall of the Kim Yongsam "regime".

The paper says:

On January 18, a soldier of a unit of the puppet army in the forefront area of Kosong County, South Korean Kangwon Province, threw a handgrenade toward his fellows who were sleeping, leaving some of them dead or wounded.

This year, too, many incidents took place in South Korea. An armed officer of the puppet army entered into

a bank in Seoul in broad daylight and robbed it of money and puppet army soldiers extracted money from pupils by threat and ran away.

About 6,700 criminal cases were reported in 1993 alone. This is more than double the figure in the previous year, the last period of the "Sixth Republic".

Such phenomena of breaking the military discipline within the South Korean puppet army, reflecting the idea of war weariness peculiar to the colonial mercenaries, can never be overcome under any circumstances. Moreover, they have become more pronounced with the emergence of the Kim Yong-sam "regime" and they are a product of the bankruptcy of the "policy of military reform".

The Kim Yong-sam group has described the puppet army as the "final bulwark of anti-communism" and "strongpoint of power", which are now collapsing.

Latin American Parties Urge Release of Prisoners SK2501111695 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1014 GMT 25 Jan 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Havana, January 23 (KCNA)—The Solidarity Committee of the Caribbean and Latin American Political Parties and Fronts for Supporting the Cause of the Struggle of the South Korean National Democratic Front (Hanminjon) and the South Korean People issued a statement on January 19, strongly demanding the release of all political prisoners and the repatriation of unconverted long-term prisoners in South Korea to the northern half of Korea.

Denouncing the "National Security Law [NSL]" as the most evil law ever in history putting the brake on social independence, democratization and national reunification, the statement strongly demanded the immediate abrogation of the anti-popular and anti- democratic "NSL".

Kim Son-myong, an unconverted longest-term prisoner in the world, has been kept in a small and dismal cell for 44 years for the reason that he refused to be "ideologically converted", the statement said, noting it is a brutal act that puts a devil to shame.

The statement strongly urged the South Korean authorities to unconditionally set free all political prisoners including the old Kim Son-myong and send back the old Kim In-so, Ham Se-hwan and Kim Yong-tae, prisoners of war and unconverted long-term prisoners, with their families and relatives in the north, to their native towns as they want.

Overseas Officials on Removal of 'Concrete Wall'

SK2501110995 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1010 GMT 25 Jan 95

[Spelling of all names as received]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, January 25 (KCNA)—Solidarity messages came from foreign parties and international organizations to the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in support of the appeal it sent to foreign parliaments and politicians on the 12th of December last year on the lapse of 15 years since the South Korean authorities built the concrete wall.

General Secretary of the Revolutionary Socialist Party of India Tridib Chouduri denounced the despicable behaviour of the South Korean fascist dictators who have built the concrete wall in a bid to divide into two the Korean people who have lived as a homogeneous nation for thousands of years in one territory and said his party will take possible measures with might and main.

The Political Executive Committee of the Socialist Party of Kazakhstan said it has always supported the desire of the progressive forces for removing the present obstacles to peace and reunification, reconciliation and unity on the Korean peninsula. It expressed its hope for positive results promoting national reconciliation between the North and the South.

Chairman of the Latin American Institute of the Chuche Idea Jose Francisco Aguilar Bulgarelli said the concrete wall blocks free travel between the North and the South, stressing the wall should be pulled down for reunification.

World Figures Urge Removal of Concrete Wall

SK2701112195 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1025 GMT 27 Jan 95

[All names as received]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, January 27 (KCNA)—World political and public circles strongly hold that, to achieve peace and reunification, reconciliation and unity on the Korean peninsula, the concrete wall and the "National Security Law [NSL]", hindrances to it, must be removed.

Robert Charvin, secretary general of the International Committee of Jurists for Democracy and Human Rights in South Korea, in a statement demanded that the concrete barrier be pulled down at once and the "NSL" scrapped immediately, in order to put an end to the idea of confrontation today on the Korean peninsula, ensure genuine human rights and let the people exercise their right to reunification in South Korea.

Otete Gaston Mboyo, national chairman of the National Movement of the Genuine Lumumbist Combatants of Zaire, branding the concrete barrier as a product of moves of the imperialists and the South Korean authorities for creating "two Koreas", said, due to the barrier, free travel and total opening have not been realized yet between the North and the South of Korea.

Somi Mukherjee, chairman of the Central Control Committee of the Communist Party of India (Marxist) in a press statement said the Kim Yong-sam puppet clique must apologize to the Korean nation and the world community for the crimes it has committed and scrap all the evil laws including the "NSL".

J. Matseka, member of parliament of Zimbabwe, exhorted the South Korean authorities to tear down the concrete wall and abrogate the "NSL" at once and sincerely respond to the dialogue of reunification.

The Nepalese papers PUNAR JAAGARAN and SROMIK called for the removal of the concrete barrier, noting that it completely and artificially blocks Korea's reunification.

The Mexican paper EL UNIVERSAL, the Guyanese paper INDEPENDENT and the Burundian paper UBUMWE said the concrete wall, a symbol of North-South confrontation, must be pulled down.

Malagasy Party Urges Demolition

SK2601152195 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1500 GMT 26 Jan 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, January 26 (KCNA)—The Politburo of the New Party of the Congress for the Independence of Madagascar published a statement on January 10 urging the South Korean authorities to demolish the concrete wall.

The statement stressed that the world people have wanted demolition of the concrete wall of the Korean peninsula, but it still remains in the south of the peninsula.

The Politburo of the New Party of the Congress for the Independence of Madagascar considers that the "National Security Law" must be abolished and the concrete wall be pulled down and expresses firm support to the struggle of the Korean people for national reunification and the 43-5 unity of the nation, the statement said.

U.S.-ROK 24, 25 Jan Military Exercises Decried SK2701050995 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0442 GMT 27 Jan 95

["War Exercises Against North Continue"—KCNA headline]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, January 27 (KCNA)—The U.S. imperialist warmaniacs and the South Korean puppets carried out military exercises for enhancing practical capabilities for surprise attack on the in-depth objects of the northern half of Korea over January 24-25, military sources said.

The exercises staged in the sky above Wonju, Anmyon islet and Uijongbu under the support of an aerial commanding plane involved more than 40 overseas-based

fighters and about 710 fighters belonging to the U.S. Seventh Airforce and the puppet airforce.

In another development, on the 24th and 25th, the South Korean puppets amassed a group of armoured vehicles and infantry units in the most forward part of the western sector of the front, to incite war fever firing thousands of rounds of large-calibre machine gun and automatic rifle bullets.

Paper: 'No Pretext' for U.S. Forces in Korea SK2701052695 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0459 GMT 27 Jan 95

["Anachronistic Mode of Thinking"—KCNA headline]
[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, January 27
(KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today denounces some dishonest elements of the United States for recently spreading a rumor that the DPRK is threatening someone, talking about "threat by Armed Forces deployed forward", "missile threat" and the like.

The news analyst says:

The DPRK's "threat" cried out by them is, in fact, an nonsense and no more than a false charge.

Clear is the intention of some dishonest elements in the United States who are circulating the false rumor against the DPRK. Proceeding from its strategic aim, the United States is trying to keep its Armed Forces in South Korea and the Asia-Pacific region for an indefinite period. It noisily vociferated about the "nuclear threat" of the DPRK in order to justify the presence of the U.S. Forces after the end of the Cold War. But there is no pretext to justify the presence of the U.S. Forces now when the framework agreement has been adopted between the DPRK and the United States and is being implemented with success. Hence, some dishonest elements brought forward a new DPRK's "threat" doctrine to invent a new pretext for a continued presence of the U.S. Forces in this region. This only revealed the intention to continue the attempt to stifle the DPRK even after the solution of the nuclear issue.

If they are truly interested in security in the Korean peninsula and the Asia-Pacific region, they must give up the bad habit of finding fault with others and refrain from creating military tension in this region.

The method of strength cannot work on us. They must clearly realise that if they stick to the method of strength, the achievements already made between the DPRK and the U.S. may be destroyed.

Some dishonest elements of the United States must renounce the confrontation concept for the United States itself.

Pomminnyon Urges 'Breakthrough' in Reunification

SK2701051395 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0449 GMT 27 Jan 95

["Call For Making Breakthrough in Reunification"— KCNA headline]

a bank in Seoul in broad daylight and robbed it of money and puppet army soldiers extracted money from pupils by threat and ran away.

About 6,700 criminal cases were reported in 1993 alone. This is more than double the figure in the previous year, the last period of the "Sixth Republic".

Such phenomena of breaking the military discipline within the South Korean puppet army, reflecting the idea of war weariness peculiar to the colonial mercenaries, can never be overcome under any circumstances. Moreover, they have become more pronounced with the emergence of the Kim Yong-sam "regime" and they are a product of the bankruptcy of the "policy of military reform".

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The news analyst says:

The DPRK's "threat" cried out by them is, in fact, an nonsense and no more than a false charge.

Clear is the intention of some dishonest elements in the United States who are circulating the false rumor against the DPRK. Proceeding from its strategic aim, the United States is trying to keep its Armed Forces in South Korea and the Asia-Pacific region for an indefinite period. It noisily vociferated about the "nuclear threat" of the DPRK in order to justify the presence of the U.S. Forces after the end of the Cold War. But there is no pretext to justify the presence of the U.S. Forces now when the framework agreement has been adopted between the DPRK and the United States and is being implemented with success. Hence, some dishonest elements brought forward a new DPRK's "threat" doctrine to invent a new pretext for a continued presence of the U.S. Forces in this region. This only revealed the intention to continue the attempt to stifle the DPRK even after the solution of the nuclear issue.

If they are truly interested in security in the Korean peninsula and the Asia-Pacific region, they must give up the bad habit of finding fault with others and refrain from creating military tension in this region.

The method of strength cannot work on us. They must clearly realise that if they stick to the method of strength, the achievements already made between the DPRK and the U.S. may be destroyed.

Some dishonest elements of the United States must renounce the confrontation concept for the United States itself.

Pomminnyon Urges 'Breakthrough' in Reunification

SK2701051395 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0449 GMT 27 Jan 95

["Call For Making Breakthrough in Reunification"— KCNA headline]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, January 27 (KCNA)—A meeting of the Central Committee of the North side headquarters of the National Alliance for the Country's Reunification (Pomminnyon) was held here Thursday.

The participants in the meeting observed a moment's silence in memory of the great leader President Kim Il-song.

Agenda items of the meeting were the "review of work of the Central Committee of Pomminnyon North side headquarters in 1994 and its tasks for 1995," and "by-election of Presidium members and members of Central Committee of Pomminnyon North side headquarters."

The chairman of the North side headquarters of Pomminnyon, Paek In-chun, in his report on the first agenda item recalled that the North side headquarters of Pomminnyon last year successfully held the 2nd meeting of co-chairmen of the Presidium of Pomminnyon and the 5th pan-national rally and vigorously conducted the struggle to carry out the joint resolution adopted at the rally in face of the persistent obstructive moves of the anti-reunification and separatist forces, holding aloft the banner of the 10-point programme of the great unity of the whole nation advanced by President Kim Il-song.

The reporter said, this year in which falls the 50th anniversary of the liberation of the country, the movement of Pomminnyon should be made in keeping with the nation's enthusiasm for reunification that is soaring higher than ever.

Noting a plaza of broad dialogue between the North, the South and overseas should be made this year, he called for actively providing the opportunities of multilateral contacts and dialogue at non-governmental level, removing the anti-reunification separatist forces and having all laws hindering the realization of reunification abrogated.

"The road to reunification in the 90s is not smooth and manifold difficulties and trials stand in the way," he said, "but our struggle for the fatherland and the nation is sure to emerge victorious."

"We must creditably adorn, on all accounts, 1995 as a year of opening a breakthrough in realizing reunification in the 90s' under the guidance of the great leader Comrade Kim Chong-il," he stressed.

Presidium members and members of the Central Committee of the North side headquarters of Pomminnyon were elected to fill the vacant seats at the meeting.

A resolution was adopted at the meeting.

Pomminnyon Resolution for 1995 Reported

SK2501152095 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1508 GMT 25 Jan 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, January 25 (KCNA)—The severed arteries of blood of the nation

must be linked and 1995 be made a year of reunification, said the headquarters of Koreans in China of the National Alliance for the Country's Reunification (Pomminnyon) in a statement January 15 supporting the appeal issued by the Joint Secretariat of Pomminnyon to the 70 million Koreans on the new year.

The statement described the three principles of independence, peaceful reunification and great national unity, the confederation formula and the 10-Point Programme of the Great Unity of the Whole Nation put forward by the father Generalissimo Kim Il-song a most legitimate and reasonable charter for national reunification.

It called for achieving great unity under the 10-Point Programme of the Great Unity of the Whole Nation, transcending the differences in ideology and social system and more courageously fighting to remove the obstacles to national unity and reunification.

"Although the road to national reunification is rough, our fellow countrymen, who advance under the wise leadership of respected General Kim Chong-il, true to the great father generalissimo's behest on reunification, will certainly realise his behest, the cherished desire of the nation," declared the statement.

West Urged To Develop Relations With Asia

SK2701110695 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1052 GMT 27 Jan 95

["It Is Imperative To Ensure Peace in Asia and Respect Sovereignty of Nations"—KCNA headline]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, January 27 (KCNA)—Western countries must take a sincere and fair stand to seek a way for developing genuine relations with Asian nations, declares NODONG SINMUN in a signed article today.

They are these days getting overheated in the attempts to extend their sphere of influence in Asia, saying "The 21st Century Belongs To Asia and Pacific", the article notes, and says:

Some countries of the West are going headlong toward getting the situation in Asia strained in an attempt to exercise their political, economic and military influence there. Typical of them are France, Spain and Britain. They are offering latest-type weapons to South Korea while helping Japan's nuclear armament this and that way.

Due to such moves of Westerners the situation of Asia is becoming complicated and tense.

If any collusion with one country leads to infringement upon other country's interests and, in particular, to aggravating the situation, it will make it impossible to ensure peace in the region and, furthermore, may create a danger of war.

The development of relations between the Western and Asian countries should be helpful to easing the situation of the Korean peninsula and the rest of Asia as a whole and ensuring peace there.

Needless to say, this will help the Western countries develop relations with Asian nations.

In developing relations with Asian nations it is imperative for the Western countries to respect the sovereignty of each nation on the principle of equality and mutual respect and promote mutual confidence.

However, the Western countries are trying to meddle in the internal affairs of Asian nations under the pretext of "human rights" and "democracy" so as to gratify their dominationist design.

All countries and nations are equal members of the world community.

Any country, even if she is big and developed, has no privilege of issuing orders and enforcing her unilateral demand upon small and less developed countries.

If the Westerners persistently resort to the methods of domination, intervention, threat and pressure, they will have to face a stronger denunciation and rejection by Asian countries.

Kim Chong-il Sends Fund to Koreans in Japan

SK2501152795 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1519 GMT 25 Jan 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, January 25 (KCNA)—The great leader Comrade Kim Chong-il sent a telegram today to Han Tok- su, chairman of the Central Standing Committee of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon), upon sending a relief fund to the Koreans in Japan suffering from a large-scale earthquake.

The telegram reads:

I express once again deep consolation and condolences to all the Koreans and the bereaved families suffering from a large-scale earthquake in Japan.

I send you a million U.S. dollars as a relief fund, sincerely hoping that all the Chongnyon organisations and Koreans in Japan will unite more firmly and actively help the Koreans in the stricken areas recover from the quake damages and achieve a stable and normal life at an early date.

Red Cross Society Sends Relief Fund to Japan

SK2501152895 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1520 GMT 25 Jan 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, January 25 (KCNA)—The Central Committee of the Red Cross Society of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea today sent 200,000 U.S. dollars to the Japan Red Cross

society as a relief fund, expressing deep sympathy and condolences over the heavy losses and great sufferings of the Japanese people from a big earthquake in Japan and wishing to help heal the quake damages and stabilise the life of the people in the stricken areas at an early date.

Friendship Gathering Honors Cuban National Hero

SK2501041795 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0405 GMT 25 Jan 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, January 25 (KCNA)—A friendship gathering was held Tuesday at the Korea-Cuba Friendship Pyongyang Moranbong Senior Middle School No. 1 on the 142nd anniversary of the birth of Jose Marti, a national hero of the Cuban people.

Invited to the gathering were Cuban Ambassador to Korea Jose Ramon Rodriguez Varona and embassy officials.

It was attended by Yang Tal-chu, vice-chairman of the Korea-Cuba Solidarity Committee and vice-chairman of the Committee for Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries, officials concerned and teachers and pupils of the school.

The guests called at the Jose Marti class and saw round experimental and practice rooms of the school.

The attendants appreciated a performance given by the art circle members of the school.

The ambassador said he hoped that the pupils of the school would prepare themselves creditably to be successors to the Korean revolution in hearty response to the lofty intention of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song.

Officials Attend Reception Marking SRV Ties

SK2701052495 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0507 GMT 27 Jan 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, January 21 (KCNA)—Vietnamese Ambassador to Korea Duong Chinh Thuc gave a reception on January 26 on the occasion of the 45th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

Speaking at the reception, Ambassador Duong Chinh Thuc said that respected President Ho Chi Minh and respected President Kim II-song had personally provided and developed the friendly relations between the two countries. They will always be with the Vietnam-Korea friendship, he added.

President Kim Il-song, the Workers' Party of Korea and the fraternal Korean people sent precious support and aid in materials and morality to the Vietnamese people in their struggle against the U.S. imperialists in the past

period, he noted, and stated that the party and people of Vietnam will always remember this.

He said that the Workers' Party of Korea and all the fraternal Korean people are waging a vigorous struggle for the cause of the construction of the country and accelerating the cause of national reunification, firmly united around Kim Chong-il, the supreme leader, true to the behests of President Kim Il-song.

He stressed that the Communist Party and people of Vietnam that value the traditional friendly relations with the fraternal Korean people will continue to make all efforts to successfully consolidate and develop the relations between the two countries.

Vice-premier of the Administration Council and Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam said in his speech that the establishment of diplomatic relations between Korea and Vietnam is a reflection of the common desire of the two peoples to support and cooperate with each other in the struggle for independence against imperialism, for national independence and socialism.

Upon receiving the sad news that the great leader of our people Comrade Kim Il-song passed away unexpectedly last year, the party and state of Vietnam published a special communique, set a nationwide mourning day and shared the sorrow with the Korean people.

Today, he noted, the Vietnamese people are actively striving to build a prosperous socialist country under the leadership of the Communist Party of Vietnam, true to the behests of respected Comrade Ho Chi Minh.

"We are convinced that the traditional friendly and cooperative relations between Korea and Vietnam will continuously be strengthened and developed by the joint efforts of the parties, governments and peoples of the two countries," he said.

Kang Song-san, Kim Yong-nam Greet Australia SK2501112295 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1040

SK2501112295 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1040 GMT 25 Jan 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, January 25 (KCNA)—Kang Song-san, premier of the Administration Council, sent a message of greetings to Prime Minister Paul Keating on the day of Australia.

Believing that the relations between the two countries would newly develop in accordance with the requirement of the present international situation and the desire of the two people, the message wished him great success in his work.

Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam sent a message of greetings to Foreign Minister Gareth Evans on this day.

Foreign Party Leaders Voice Support for Socialism

SK2601120695 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1014 GMT 26 Jan 95

[All names as received]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, January 26 (KCNA)—Foreign party leaders recently received Korean ambassadors to their countries and voiced support for the Korean people's cause of socialist construction.

Kebby Musokotwane, chairman of the United National Independence Party of Zambia, expressed the belief that though the great leader President Kim Il-song passed away, the Korean people will defend socialism and surely reunify the country under the wise guidance of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il, who is perfectly carrying forward his cause.

"We extend invariable support to all the proposals and stand of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il and the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea," he said, adding: "I hope that the agreed framework between the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the United States will be honestly implemented to virtually contribute to the peace and reunification of Korea."

Ngoy Nduba, general secretary of the Lumumba Democratic Party of Zaire, said that, led by such a great man as the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il, Korea has been able to build a socialist paradise of chuche, the supreme ideal of humankind.

"We, with the chuche idea as the guideline, are making a deep study of it and fully supporting the Korean people's struggle," he declared.

Roland Atta-Kesson, national chairman of the National Convention Party of Ghana, said nothing can keep socialist Korea from advancing with faith and conviction, on the basis of the singlehearted unity of the leader, the party and the popular masses.

Delegation Leaves To Attend Conference in Jordan

SK2601121195 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1040 GMT 26 Jan 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, January 26 (KCNA)—A delegation of the Korean Journalists Union led by Choe Yong-sam, first vice-chairman of its Central Committee, left here today by air to attend the 12th conference of the International Organisation of Journalists (IOJ) slated in Jordan.

WPK Delegation Leaves for Denmark 26 Jan SK2601120895 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1039

GMT 26 Jan 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, January 26 (KCNA)—A delegation of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] led by Hwang Chang-yop, secretary of its Central Committee, left here today for Denmark.

It was seen off at the airport by Hyon Chun-kuk, department director of the WPK Central Committee.

CPC Sends 'Message of Greetings' to India

SK2501111995 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1021 GMT 25 Jan 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, January 25 (KCNA)—The Central People's Committee [CPC] of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea today sent a message of greetings to President Shankar Dayal Sharma on the day of the Republic of India.

The message stressed that the Indian people have made a great progress in the work for the independent development of the country and the building of a new life over the last 45 years since the foundation of the republic, and expressed the belief that the friendly and cooperative relations between the DPRK and India would continue to develop in the idea of the independence, friendship and non-alignment.

The message wished the president and the people of India greater success in the work for national unity and the prosperity of the country.

Officials Attend Indian National Day Reception

SK2601051395 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0440 GMT 26 Jan 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, January 26 (KCNA)—Indian Ambassador to Korea Adya Nand Jha hosted a reception on Jan. 25 on the occasion of the day of the Republic of India.

Present on invitation there were Kim Yong-nam, vicepremier of the Administration Council and foreign minister; Yang Hyong-sop, chairman of the Supreme People's Assembly; Chu Song-il, chairman of the Central Committee of the General Federation of Trade Unions of Korea and chairman of the Korea-India Friendship Association; and officials concerned.

Ambassador Adya Nand Jha said in his speech that when the Korean people deeply grieved over the death of his excellency the great leader Kim Il-song last year, the leaders and people of India shared the sorrow with them. The Indian people hope that the tasks set forth by the great leader President Kim Il-song will be continuously carried out under the leadership of his excellency the great leader Kim Chong-il, he noted.

India has always supported the peaceful reunification of Korea without any outside interference, he said, adding India and the DPRK have cooperated with each other in the United Nations, the Non- Aligned Movement and other international arena.

The DPRK has turned into a country with a powerful economy under the leadership of his excellency the great leader Kim Il-song, the father of the nation, he stated, and continued: India greatly respects the independent policy of the DPRK and the principles of the chuche idea authored by his excellency the great leader Kim Il-song.

Speaking at the reception, chairman of the State Commission of Science and Technology Choe Hui-chong said: "On the death of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, the Indian Government proclaimed a nation-wide mourning period, messages of condolences came to the great leader of our party and our people Comrade Kim Chong-il from his excellency respected President Shankar Dayal Sharma and His Excellency Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao and wreaths were sent by them to the bier of Comrade Kim Il-song.

"This shows that the government officials and people of your country deeply respect and revere our leader Comrade Kim Il-song and value the friendship with our people.

"The great leader of our party and our people Comrade Kim Chong- il has always paid deep attention to the development of the friendly and cooperative relations with India.

"We will as ever make all efforts to further expand and develop the friendly and cooperative relations with India in the political, economic, cultural and other fields, true to the lifetime intention of our leader Comrade Kim Il-song".

Papers Observe Day of Republic of India

SK2601103795 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1018 GMT 26 Jan 95

["Day of Republic of India Observed"—KCNA headline]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, January 26 (KCNA)—Papers here today dedicate articles to the day of the Republic of India.

NODONG SINMUN in a by-lined article titled "45 Years of Progress" says:

The foundation of the Republic of India was an important event which brought about a radical turn in the life of the Indian people.

On this occasion, the Korean people extend warm congratulations to the friendly Indian people.

All the successes registered in India after the founding of the Republic are a fruition of the creative efforts of the industrious and honest Indian people.

The Korean people sincerely rejoice at the success gained by the Indian people in the building of a new society.

The Korea-India friendship which is growing in strength and developing day by day contributes to building a new society in the two countries, strengthening and developing the Non-aligned Movement and building an independent, prosperous new Asia.

The Korean people will continue to strengthen and develop the friendly and cooperative relations with the Indian people in the future, too.

A signed article of MINJU CHOSON sincerely wishes the Indian people greater advance in their work to build an independent, prosperous new India.

SPA Chief Greets Burundian Assembly President

SK2701113895 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1101 GMT 27 Jan 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, January 27 (KCNA)—Yang Hyong-sop, chairman of the Supreme People's Assembly [SPA], sent a message of greetings to Leonce Ngendarkumana [name as received] upon his election as president of the Burundian National Assembly.

Expressing the belief that the friendly and cooperative relations between the Supreme People's Assembly and the Burundian National Assembly would favourably develop in the interests of the two peoples, the message wished him success in his responsible work.

Chongnyon News Conference on Kim Chong-il's Gift

SK2701051895 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0452 GMT 27 Jan 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, January 26 (KNS-KCNA) [dateline as received]—Yi Chin-kyu, first vice-chairman of the Central Standing Committee of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon), gave a press conference in Tokyo on January 26, regarding the relief fund sent by the great leader Marshal Kim Chong-il to the Koreans in Japan.

The first vice-chairman said that the Chongnyon officials and Koreans in Japan, upon hearing the news that the great leader Marshal Kim Chong-il sent a message of sympathy and even a relief fund to the Koreans in Japan, could hardly repress boundless emotion and joy at his deep loving care.

Explaining down to the minutest details the damage the Koreans in Japan suffered from the earthquake, which was investigated by the Central Measure Committee of Chongnyon to rescue Koreans in the strickenhareas in the southern part of Hyogo prefecture, and the work of Chongnyon to rescue them, he said that it is imperative for the Japanese administration authorities to promptly take an unbiased relief step for Koreans who suffered from the quake.

Peruvian Council Awards Medal to Kim Chong-il

SK2701050095 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0436 GMT 27 Jan 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, January 27 (KCNA)—A meeting of awarding the title and medal of honorary citizen of Chincha city, Peru, to the great leader Comrade Kim Chong-il on his birthday was held in the City Hall of Chincha, the capital of Chincha Province, on January 20.

Read at the meeting was a decision of the city council on awarding the title and medal to him.

"Confirming that his excellency the dear leader Kim Chong-il is an internationally recognized statesman with authority who is leading the struggle for the wellbeing of the Korean people, register him as an honorary citizen of Chincha city in high appreciation of his priceless feats and award him the title and medal of honorary citizen with the approval of all the members of the council," said the decision. Jose Navarro Grau, governor of Chincha Province and mayor of Chincha, handed the diploma and medal to the Korean ambassador.

In his speech the mayor of Chincha said that as His Excellency Kim Chong-il, an outstanding thinker, theoretician and statesman, has guided the Korean people in Korea, the priceless feats performed by His Excellency President Kim Il-song have been successfully inherited.

"It is a great pleasure and pride for all our citizens to award the title and medal of honorary citizen of Chincha city to His Excellency Kim Chong-il on his birthday," he added.

Tanzanian Minister on Kim Chong-il's Theory

SK2701045995 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0410 GMT 27 Jan 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, January 26 (KCNA)—Stress was laid on learning from the idea and theory on art and literature of the great leader Comrade Kim Chong-il at the opening ceremony of the 11th music and art circle of the Cultural Centre in Tanzania. The ceremony was held in Dar-es-Salaam on January 16 on the threshold of the birthday of Comrade Kim Chong-il.

In his congratulatory speech at the ceremony, Philemon Sarongi, Tanzanian minister of education and culture, said the great Comrade Kim Il-song was a benevolent leader of the Tanzanian people, who had shown disinterested great solicitude for the building of a new society in Tanzania from long ago.

"Though the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song passed away, the great solicitude he had shown for the Tanzanian people and the great feats he had performed for the development of friendly relations between the two countries will remain forever in the hearts of the Tanzanian people," he said.

"The care of the dear leader General Kim Chong-il is the care of a great mother who brings into bloom the artistic talents of the Tanzanian students," he said. "We should learn from his idea and theory on art and literature and his leadership achievements to steadily refine the artistic skills and thereby actively contribute to cultural construction in Tanzania."

"We must never forget the loving care and solicitude shown by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and the

dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il for the children and people of Tanzania and live up to it on all accounts," he said.

A message of greetings to Comrade Kim Chong-il was adopted at the ceremony.

Kim Chong-il Exchanges Cards With Leaders SK2501151595 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1504 GMT 25 Jan 95

[Except for heads of state, spelling of all names as received]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, January 25 (KCNA)—The great leader Comrade Kim Chong-il exchanged New Year's cards with heads of state and party leaders of different countries.

Among them are Bangladeshi President Abdur Rahman Biswas, Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad, Indian President Shankar Dayal Sharma, Indian Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao, Tunisian President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali, Slovak President Michal Kovac, President of Croatia Franjo Tudjman, Austrian President Thomas Klestil, Governor General of Belize Colvill Young, chairman of the C.C. [Central Committee], the Nepal Worker and Peasant Party Narayan Man Bijukchhe, General Secretary of the C.C., the Workers' Party of Bangladesh Rashed Khan Menon, Convener of the C.C., the Socialist Party of Bangladesh Khalequzzaman Bhuiyan, General Secretary of the C.C., the Worker and Peasant Socialist Party of Bangladesh Nir Malsen, Convener of the C.C., the Socialist Party of Bangladesh A.F.M. Mahbubul Huq, General Secretary of the C.C., the Communist Party of Syria Khaled Bagdash, Secretary General of the Pakistan People's Party Rafiq Ahmad Sheikh, Secretary General of the Palestine Liberation Democratic Party Nayef Hawatmeh, Secretary General of the C.C., the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine George Habash, Secretary General of the Indian National Congress Party (I) Sushil Kumar Shinde, General Secretary of the Revolutionary Socialist Party of India Tridib Chouduri, National Chairman of the National Convention Party of Ghana Roland Attakesson, General Secretary of the National Democratic Congress of Ghana Huudu Yahaha, President of the National Union for the Development and Democracy of Madagascar Emanuel Rakotobahiny, General Secretary of the Pan-African Union for the Social Democracy of the Congo Moukoueke Cristophe, Secretary General of the Renewal Movement of Tunisia Mohamed Hamel, National Political Commissar of the National Resistance Movement and First Vice Prime Minister of Uganda Eriya Kategaya, Chairman of the Executive Council of the C.C., the Bulgarian Communist Party (Marxists) Boris Petkov, Chairman of the For Peace and Socialism-The Communist Workers' Party of Finland Timo Lahdenmaki, Honorary Chairman of the C.C., the Communist Party of Greece (Exterior) Harilaos Florakis, Chairman of the Democratic Renovation

Party of Portugal Manuel Vargas Loureiro, Chairman of the National Executive Committee of the Polish League of Communists (Proletariat) Zbigniew Wiktor, General Secretary of the Communist Party of the Peoples of Spain Juan Ramos, National Chairman of the Communist Party of the USA Gus Hall and National Secretary of the Socialist Workers' Party of the USA Jack Barnes.

Kim Chong-il's Work Reported, Studied Abroad SK2601120095 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1010 GMT 26 Jan 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, January 26 (KCNA)—The famous work of the great leader Comrade Kim Chong-il "Socialism Is a Science" was carried by the Nigerian paper INDEPENDENT and the Belgian magazine TRIBUNE COMMUNIST.

The Madagascan AMP News Agency reported the work, noting that the Korean people and peoples of the world are greeting the birthday of the great leader Comrade Kim Chong-il with festival events and that it reports the full text of the work on this occasion.

Meanwhile, the Chuche Idea Study Society of the Youth in Moscow and the Nigerian National Committee for the Study of the Chuche Idea held seminars on the work and Radio America of Nicaragua reported an article explaining this work.

In his report at the seminar, Chairman of the Chuche Idea Study Society of the Youth in Moscow Dmitri Kostenko [name as received] said the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il's work "Socialism Is a Science" is a famous work which completes the socialist idea and theory as a science on the basis of the chuche idea and places them on the highest plane.

'Benevolent Politics Enforced' by Kim Chong-il SK2701113695 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1057 GMT 27 Jan 95

["Korean-style Socialism Fully Embodying Relationship of Love and Trust"—KCNA headline]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, January 27 (KCNA)—The great leader Comrade Kim Chong-il in his famous work "Socialism Is a Science" comprehensively indicated that socialism centred on the masses is a most solid and dynamic socialism which fully embodies the relationship of love and trust in all spheres of social life.

The great leader Comrade Kim Chong-il said:

"Socialism centred on the masses fully embodies comradely unity and cooperation and the relationship of love and trust in all spheres of social life. It transforms politics into politics of love and trust."

NODONG SINMUN says in a by-lined article today:

Boundless love and absolute trust for the people constitute the fundamental principle of the true politics centred on the masses, the benevolent politics enforced by the great leader Comrade Kim Chong-il.

In Korean-style socialism which fully embodies the relationship of love and trust, the great leader deeply values and loves the people and the people absolutely worship and follow the leader as they would their own parents and the noble communist traits of helping and leading each other forward are prevailing in the whole society.

In this society of a great harmonious whole, the blood ties of love and trust are being fully displayed. Herein lie the absolute advantages of our-style socialism and incomparable confidence and pride of our people.

It is the noble spiritual and moral traits of our people to devote their all to the society, the collective and revolutionary comrades and feel the worth of their life and happiness therefrom in our society where the socialist collectivist idea "One For All and All For One!" has been fully embodied.

With the relationship of love and trust being fully displayed in the whole society, the singlehearted unity of our party and people with the great leader as the core is being cemented as firm as a rock and the advantages and vitality of our-style socialism are being brought into full play.

Kim Chong-il Sends Birthday Table to Official

SK2601050795 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0425 GMT 26 Jan 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, January 26 (KCNA)—The great leader Comrade Kim Chong-il sent a sixtieth birthday table to Kim Sung-tok, secretary of the Onsong County, North Hamgyong Province, Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea.

Receiving the birthday table on January 23, Kim Sungtok and his family expressed deep respect and thanks to Comrade Kim Chong-il, who has provided all our people with a happy life, fully applying the respected leader President Kim Il-song's idea of "believing in the people as in heaven" on this land.

Kim Sung-tok, who was born into a farmhand's family in a village in Chechon city, North Chungchong Province, South Korea, before the liberation of the country, vowed to remain faithful and devoted to the great leader Comrade Kim Chong-il through generations together with all his family and relatives, always aware of the glory and happiness bestowed on him, to repay the ever increasing solicitude of the party and the leader.

Kim Chong-il Thanks Party Official Yim Wan-chol

SK2601050595 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0422 GMT 26 Jan 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, January 26 (KCNA)—The great leader Comrade Kim Chong-il

extended thanks to Yim Wan-chol, secretary of the primary party committee of the State Planning Commission, for his communist virtues.

Yim Wan-chol, resolved to become a party official serving the people, has taken a good care of the work and life of all the employees, preparing them to be revolutionary soldiers faithful to the party and the leader.

The speakers at the thanks-conveying meeting said the appreciation and thanks to Yim contain deep love, trust and expectation of the dear leader, who wants officials to always take the lead in bringing the advantages of Korean-style socialism centered on the popular masses into full play and making the whole country replete with communist virtues.

They called for working hard in one mind to make the country, the fatherland more prosperous with the unshakable faith that the great leader President Kim Il-song is always with the Korean people and the absolute worship for the great leader Comrade Kim Chong-il.

Visits to Kim Il-song's Statue Reported

SK2501044095 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0423 GMT 25 Jan 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, January 25 (KCNA)—Korean senior party and government officials, anti-Japanese revolutionary fighters and people from all walks of life, 2,010,000 in all, called at the statue of the great leader President Kim Il-song on Mansu Hill in Pyongyang this year, made bows before it and made a firm pledge to uphold the great leader Comrade Kim Chong-il with loyalty and filial piety in one mind.

In this period more than 2,180 baskets of flowers and hundreds of thousands of bouquets and flowers were laid before the statue of President Kim II-song.

The anti-Japanese revolutionary fighters who called at his statue on January 24 on the lapse of 200 days after his death vowed to invariably take the road of revolution, guided by the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il, bearing deep in their hearts the earnest behests of President Kim Il-song on holding Comrade Kim Chong-il in high esteem.

Officials of central and local party and power bodies, administrative and economic organs, workers, peasants, intellectuals and servicemen of the People's Army made a solemn resolution to devote their wisdom and energies to the struggle for making their country, their mother-land more prosperous, and firmly defend and glorify Korean-type socialism, under the wise guidance of Comrade Kim Chong-il.

Russian Envoy Visits Statue

SK2601050395 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0426 GMT 26 Jan 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, January 26 (KCNA)—A delegation of the Foreign Ministry of

Russia headed by a department director, Yevgeny Apanasiev [name as received], laid bouquets before the statue of the great leader President Kim Il-song on Mansu Hill and paid homage to him on January 24.

They were accompanied by Russian Ambassador to Korea Yuriy Fadeyev.

Reportage on KPA 'Agitators' Meeting Continues

'Agitators' Welcomed by Citizens

SK2601130295 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1300 GMT 23 Jan 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Participants of the ninth meeting of agitators of the Korean People's Army [KPA] arrived by train in Pyongyang on 23 January. Upholding the autographic letter from Comrade Kim Chong-il, the respected and beloved supreme commander and the great leader [yongdoja] of our party and people, the participants have vigorously drummed the battle-front propaganda and agitation and guarded the thousand-ri land like an impregnable fortress for the prosperity and safety of my country and my fatherland. Working people, youths, and students of the capital came to Pyongyang station and the adjacent streets to welcome the participants.

A portrait of Comrade Kim Il-song, the great leader [suryong] of our party and people, was seen at Pyongyang station, as well as the slogans "Hurrah for the Great Leader [suryong] Comrade Il- song," and "Hurrah for the Glorious Workers Party of Korea!" Banners installed around the station read: "Congratulations to the ninth meeting of KPA agitators," "Welcome the participants of the ninth meeting of KPA agitators," and "Glorious is the Heroic KPA officers and men."

Welcoming music was played when the participants arrived. The masses enthusiastically welcomed them by waving bouquets and playing songs "Congratulatory Confetti" and "Victorious Review of Troops." The working people handed over flowers to the participants of the meeting and threw confetti. Comrade Kim Kwang-chin, KPA vice marshal, and responsible functionaries of organizations related to the Armed Forces, Pyongyang municipal party and political organizations, as well as administrative and economic organizations, received the participants of the meeting.

Participants of the meeting waved their hands to the hailing masses and expressed their ardent resolution to demonstrate once again through the meeting the unswerving loyalty and filial piety of the one-a-match-for-a-hundred revolutionary soldiers, who have been brought up by the respected and beloved Supreme Commander Comrade Kim Chong-il, and of the battle soldiers of ideological frontline, and the political and military might of our revolutionary Armed Forces.

'Agitators' Lay Flowers at Statue

SK2601045195 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0429 GMT 26 Jan 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, January 26 (KCNA)—The participants in the ninth meeting of agitators of the Korean People's Army [KPA] laid floral baskets and bouquets before the statue of the great leader President Kim Il-song on Mansu Hill here and paid homage to him on January 25.

Guardsmen of the KPA stood by the statue.

Written on the ribbons hanging from the floral baskets were "The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song will be immortal," "Undying will be the great revolutionary feats of the respected leader Generalissimo Kim Il-song!" and other letters.

They, shouting "Let us become rifles and bombs defending the respected Supreme Commander General Kim Chong-il with our lives!" "Let us devotedly fight for the respected Supreme Commander General Kim Chong-il!" and other slogans, pledged themselves to reliably defend the socialist cause of chuche with arms, remaining faithful to him, true to the behests of President Kim Il-song.

Participants Receive Decorations

SK2701115195 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1112 GMT 27 Jan 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, January 27 (KCNA)—The title of Hero of the Republic was awarded to officer Yi Tae-kyu and Non-commissioned Officer Kwak Yong-hwan, the title of Labour Hero to Non-commissioned Officer Kim Chong-hyok and other state decorations to many soldiers for their devoted activities to implement the party's policy of propaganda and agitation and their great contribution to the strengthening of the combat preparedness and combat capacity of the People's Army with intense loyalty to the party and the leader.

A ceremony was held at the February 8 House of Culture here today to award the state decorations and gifts to the participants in the ninth meeting of agitators of the Korean People's Army.

Yi Tae-kyu downed at one shot a military helicopter of the U.S. imperialists which intruded into the airspace of the DPRK in December last year, and thus contributed to demonstrating the strength of the People's Army.

He had been a sergeant, but was promoted to a first lieutenant of the KPA at the meeting.

At the ceremony, gifts from Comrade Kim Chong-il, supreme commander of the Korean People's Army, were awarded to all the participants of the meeting.

Yi Tae-kyu and other speakers unanimously said they would uphold and follow forever respected Supreme

Commander Comrade Kim Chong-il as the savior of their destiny and their mental support and remain unfailingly loyal and devoted to his idea and leadership, come what may, true to the behests of the great leader President Kim Il-song.

The participants shouted "Let Us Become Bodyguards and Shock Brigade Intensely Loyal To Respected Supreme Commander Comrade Kim Chong-il!" and "Let Us Become Rifles and Bombs To Defend Respected Supreme Commander General Kim Chong-il With Our Lives!"

The ceremony was attended by Choe Kwang, Politburo member of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, vice-chairman of the National Defence Commission of the DPRK, member of the Party Central Military Commission and chief of the General Staff of the Korean People's Army, and other officials.

Ninth Meeting Closes 27 Jan

SK2701114595 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1106 GMT 27 Jan 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, January 27 (KCNA)—The ninth meeting of agitators of the Korean People's Army (KPA) which opened on January 26 closed today.

The two-day meeting was held with the participants full of the revolutionary resolution to trust in and follow only respected Supreme Commander Comrade Kim Chongil, bring the political and ideological advantages of the People's Army into full play and effect collective innovations in making combat preparations and increasing the combat power, thus steadfastly defending the socialist cause of chuche with rifles.

The speakers expressed their determination to invigorate the ideological education to make all the servicemen always hold the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song in high esteem as the sun of chuche, absolutely worship and defend Comrade Kim Chong-il with arms at the cost of their lives, true to his behests.

The participants shouted "Let Us Become Rifles and Bombs Defending Respected Supreme Commander General Kim Chong-il With Our Lives!" "Let Us Unconditionally and Thoroughly Implement the Oath We Made To Respected Supreme Commander General Kim Chong-il!" and other slogans.

At the meeting the military rank of KPA first lieutenant was conferred on Sergeant Yi Tae-kyu who had enhanced his military technique and successfully fulfilled his military mission by intensifying the combat and political training under the leadership of the party. He also contributed to demonstrating the might of the People's Army by shooting down a military helicopter of the U.S. imperialists when it illegally intruded into the territorial air of our country.

A letter of pledge to Comrade Kim Chong-il, the great leader of our party and our people and supreme commander of the Korean People's Army, was adopted at the meeting.

Increase in Economic Achievements Highlighted

SK2701113595 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1045 GMT 27 Jan 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, January 27 (KCNA)—Successes are on a steady increase at different units of the national economy of Korea.

The Anju area coal complex is cutting an extra coal by thousands of tons every day, or 20 percent up above the plan set higher than last year.

The Sunchon area coal complex is overfulfilling the daily assignment, set 20 percent higher than last year, by 10 to 12 percent every day.

The coal mines under the minor coal mine management bureau in North Hwanghae Province are overfulfilling their assignments 50 percent in tunneling and 30 percent in coal production.

Many coal mines including Hwangju, Kumchon, Koksan and Suan coal mines doubled production of coal in the last half month or so as compared with the same period of the previous month.

The forestry stations throughout the country under the forestry ministry effected innovations in timber production and thus have felled 7,000 more cubic metres of timber in the last 20 days, than the corresponding period last year. In this period they overfulfilled by 40 percent the daily plan of support timber production, set 6 percent higher than last year.

The hydro-electric power stations in all parts of the country including the Hochongang and Changjagang power stations overfulfilled the daily assignments of power production more than 7 percent over the last 20 days.

The Komdok mining complex produced 300 more tons of lead and zinc on the first workday of the New Year than the average daily output at the end of last year, and 100 production units of the complex finished the monthly plan as of January 20.

The Kim Chong-tae general electric locomotive works, the June 4 general rolling-stock works, the ministry of marine transport and the general bureau of land transport, locomotive corps, Nampo port and many other units are making progress in production and transport.

Article Describes Modernization of Trade Ports

SK2601133495 Pyongyang MINJU CHOSON in Korean 17 Dec 94 p 3

[Article by reporter Kim Yong-ho: "Modernization of Trade Ports Is Being Accelerated"]

[FBIS Translated Text] With our working people's working life becoming better with each passing day, thanks to our party's wise leadership, the working conditions in trade ports are also changing beyond recognition.

In trade ports, various types of machinery and equipment, including port cranes and fork-lift trucks are completely furnished, and loading and unloading work, as well as hauling work, is mechanized. Thus, trade ports are furnished with more modern technical equipment and facilities, and, accordingly, port work has become more fun-packed and rewarding work.

Fun-packed and rewarding port work is guaranteed emphatically by the modernization of ports, and we have vividly witnessed this in various trade ports in our country.

In the case of Nampo port, where a computerization system has been realized, scores of computers are utilized in the operation of the port, and a comprehensive computer network is established from the computer center to various work sites. Through this computer network, not only various data and statuses of the port are correctly checked and confirmed in a timely manner, but also port work is skillfully organized and commanded. Also through this computer system, types and amounts of cargoes loaded on and unloaded from ships, charges for port work, charges for cargo custody, the status of operation and utilization of port machinery and equipment, and workers' daily and monthly work sheets are comprehensively checked and analyzed promptly. As a result, tremendous labor and time required for handling the overall operation of the port have been sharply reduced. At the same time, it has been made possible to establish scientific and reasonable work processes, to organize their implementation, and to completely prevent even the slightest degree of mistake in operating port business.

This is not the case of Nampo alone. In the fertilizer unloading site on the first wharf of Najin port where a computerized, remote-controlled, modernized fertilizer transit site is located, enough fertilizer for four large-type freight cars is unloaded at once, and several hundreds tonnes of fertilizer are hauled per hour from the unloading site to warehouses and from the warehouses to ships by belt conveyers.

The comprehensive magnesia clinker operation facilities and equipment and the hydraulic 100-tonne freight car loading equipment, established in Hungnam port, can handle any large quantities of cargoes in a short time. The vehicle-established weighing machines established in major trade ports automatically measure all cargoes coming into and going out of ports in a rapid and correct way.

The appearance of trade ports in our country—which have been equipped with modern machinery and technological equipment—is another proud reality unfolded

by the farsighted plan and the wise leadership of the dear comrade leader who is making efforts to provide our people with more independent and creative working conditions.

The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il has indicated: "As befitting the chuche-type human beings living in the era of chuche, our people, too, the masters of the times, are making efforts to make their working conditions and living environment more independent and creative and more civilized. We should lead them to realize these demands and aspiration of theirs without delay."

The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il, who are giving our working people special care so that they can improve their working conditions in conformity with the demands of the developing realities, has presented a policy with regard to turning due efforts into accelerating the modernization of the existing ports in addition to concentrating efforts on building new wharves in port construction. This is a wise policy which makes it possible not only to enhance the economic effectiveness of port construction and to rapidly increase ports' freight transit capacity, but also to provide port workers with better working conditions.

The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il not only clearly elucidated the direction and methods to carry out the modernization of ports in our own way and in conformity with our own situation, but also personally visited ports and, based on his acquaintance with the situation, energetically led port workers for the realization of the direction and methods.

Infinitely encouraged by the wise leadership and great care of the dear comrade leader, who has brilliantly embodied the great leader's chuche-oriented maritime transportation construction ideology, functionaries and workers of the maritime transportation sector vigorously accelerated the modernization of ports by displaying their revolutionary spirit of self-reliance and fortitude while cherishing in their hearts burning loyalty to the party and the leader [suryong].

In those days, they furiously kindled the flames of the battle of speed and introduced over 200 technological suggestions in the modernization construction of ports. As a result, the construction of the fertilizer transit site in the first wharf of the Najin port with a lot of some 25,000 pyongs [one pyong is 3.954 square yards], which had been said to take more than three years to build, was completed in a year and 10 months. Also, the computerization project of the Nampo port was completed in a very short period of time.

Functionaries in the maritime transportation sector and other sectors concerned actively accelerated the computerization project of Nampo port, proceeding from the viewpoint and position that they should do anything whatsoever if it would be effective and would alleviate port workers' labor in the course of promoting the modernization of trade ports.

The large-type cylindrical shovel machine has been established in Nampo port and, as result of this, the work efficiency in handling powder cargoes has increased four times over the past. A rod steel material base has been built in Chongjin port and, as a result of this, it has been possible to independently solve the rod steel needed in the modernization projects of the port. These are the successes achieved in the course of modernizing ports.

Thanks to the modernization of trade ports, the word "pack carried on man's back" has become an old word.

The working people in the maritime transportation sector, who are leading their fun and rewarding labor life thanks to the party's wise leadership and care, are more vigorously struggling to accelerate the modernization of trade ports and to achieve higher targets in cargo loading and unloading while cherishing deep in their hearts the great leader's lifetime teachings and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il's intent.

Komdok Mine Workers Fulfill Ore Production Goal

SK2501073795 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 2100 GMT 24 Jan 95

[FBIS Translated Text] The Komdok mine complex, a leading non- ferrous metals production base in our country, is carrying out a fierce movement to create a 10,000-tonne platoon of loyalty.

With a view to decorating [changsik] with brilliant labor feats this year of significance, which is the 50th anniversary of the party's founding and the 20th anniversary of the on-the-spot guidance by the great leader [yongdoja] Comrade Kim Chong-il, the working class in this complex produced 300 tonnes more lead and zinc in the new year's first combat than the daily average production record at the end of last year, and is continually expanding its success.

Combatants of the Hyon Tae-won-affiliated ore mining platoon in the No.4 pit of the Kumgol branch mine fulfilled the January production goal on 8 January. On 10 January, 34 platoon workteams fulfilled the first month's production goal. On 20 January, more than 100 platoon workteams fulfilled the monthly production plan, and are vigorously marching forward without relaxing their spirit.

Construction of Bridges in Pyongyang Discussed

SK2501152395 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1516 GMT 25 Jan 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, January 25 (KCNA)—The construction of the Chongnyu Bridge (second-stage) and Kumnung Tunnel No.2 is now progressing apace in Pyongyang.

Officers and men of the Korean People's Army and the Korean People's Security Forces are taking charge of these projects.

This bridge which will be built across the Taedong River and the tunnel adjoining to it will make traffic more convenient for the citizens of the capital.

The bridge linking the east Pyongyang area to the Nungna Islet on the river has been already completed as the first-stage project. The bridge now under construction at the second-stage will link the Rungna Islet to the west Pyongyang area.

The great leader Comrade Kim Chong-il, supreme commander of the Korean People's Army, on November 9 last year issued an order to complete the construction of the projects by the 10th of October, 1995 which marks the 50th anniversary of the foundation of the Workers' Party of Korea, true to the lifetime intention of the great leader President Kim Il-song to make Pyongyang magnificent and beautiful.

The soldier builders, in hearty response to his order, are promoting the construction in high spirits and thus opened a bright prospect to finish it ahead of schedule.

The construction of bridges is being actively promoted with the capital being changed into a modern city.

When the country was liberated, there was only a narrow Taedong Bridge across the Taedong River which was built during the colonial rule of the Japanese imperialists. It was destroyed by the enemy during the Korean War and rehabilitated after the war.

President Kim Il-song met designers and other officials in charge of the Pyongyang city construction on several occasions and unfolded a bright blueprint to lay new modern bridges across the Taedong River.

According to his far-reaching plan on building the capital, the Ognyu Bridge the construction of which was started at the end of the 50s, the period of the great Chollima upsurge, was commissioned on the 15th anniversary of the country's liberation (August, 1960) and the Chungsong Bridge built on the 35th DPRK founding anniversary (September, 1983).

President Kim Il-song participated in the opening ceremonies of these bridges to cut off tapes for their completion.

The Nungna Bridge, the Yanggak Bridge and bridges on barrages have been built across the Taedong River in recent 10 odd years alone.

There are many bridges big and small on the Pothong River which was changed into a "river of paradise".

Before the liberation there was only a narrow Sosong Bridge on the river called a "river of rancor" as it caused flood in rainy seasons. But there are many bridges on which tram cars run and several trucks can pass simultaneously.

Flyovers have been built at the crossroads to prevent traffic jams.

Name plates written by President Kim Il-song are seen at many bridges in Pyongyang.

Workers at Silk Plant Overfulfill Daily Goals

SK2701035595 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1200 GMT 25 Jan 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Party members and workers at the Chongchongang joint venture company are vigorously carrying out the struggle to hasten the accomplishment of the silk thread production plan, which was set high for the first month of this year. In an interview with central station reporter Choe Hun, company manager Yi Yon-ok stated:

[Begin Yi Yon-ok recording] Party members and workers of our Chongchongang joint venture company have risen up to implement the party's light industry-first policy, with the sheer desire to faithfully uphold the party's great leadership and to make our country, our fatherland, more prosperous. They are now vigorously carrying out the struggle to hasten the accomplishment of the first month's plan of this year, which was set 10 percent higher than last year.

Functionaries of our company actively aroused the masses of producers to commemorate this meaningful year, when the 50th anniversary of the founding of the party and the 50th anniversary of the fatherland's liberation will be marked, with brilliant labor results, and are planning and organizing in a revolutionary manner the political work of giving priority to material supply for production.

The silk thread producers of our company launched into the new year's onward march, bearing deep in mind the iron-firm faith that we will certainly win as long as the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong- il is with us. By operating all facilities at full capacity, they effect an innovation of producing silk thread at 120 percent of the daily plan in these days.

In particular, workers at the cocoons assorting workshop and the (?silk extracting) workshop are reliably working on the preparatory processing of silk thread production by broadly introducing advanced work methods, concentrating their strength and wisdom.

Silk reelers at silk reeling workshop Nos. 3 and 4 proudly keep overfulfilling the daily silk thread production plan by 30 percent while excellently managing (?facilities) by thoroughly meeting the demand of the standard manufacturing procedure and the technical specifications, and by vigorously carrying out the movement of each person taking charge of a machine. [end recording]

Daily Stresses Importance of Law-Abiding Life SK2701031395 Pyongyang MINJU CHOSON in Korean 15 Dec 94 p 2

[Article by Han Sang-kyu, permanent vice chairman of the South Hamgyong Provincial People's Committee: "Guidance for a Socialist Law-Abiding Life Is an Important Function of the People's Regime"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Today, all people throughout the entire country are upholding the great leader's lifetime lofty will and vigorously carrying out the struggle to elucidate the superiority of our own style of socialism by all the more firmly uniting around the party. At this time, we significantly welcome the anniversary of the publication of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il's classic immortal work "On Strengthening the Socialist Law-Abiding Life."

The dear comrade leader's work is an immortal series which developed and enriched the great leader's ideology and theory on the socialist law-abiding life in accordance with the demand of our revolutionary development. With the publication of the work, the socialist law-abiding life was strengthened, and the fundamental method to establish a revolutionary law-abiding trait throughout society as well as the issues of principle which the working-class party and state must abide by in guiding a law-abiding life were completely elucidated. In addition, a guiding principle was provided to strengthen the socialist law-abiding life as well as to consolidate and develop the national social system by enhancing the function and role of the people's regime in every direction.

One of the important duties facing the people's regime is to thoroughly implement the ideology presented in the work so that guidance for a socialist law-abiding life can be carried out well.

The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il has pointed out:

"Organizing and guiding a socialist law-abiding life is one of the important functions of the people's regime."

The socialist law-abiding life moves the people in a unified manner based on laws and regulations, and is a national organizational life that realizes joint action.

Therefore, the socialist law-abiding life has progressed based on the people's self-consciousness; it assumes a sense of duty. This is organized and guided through the national regime.

Since the socialist law-abiding life is an organizational life that assumes self-consciousness as well as a sense of duty, guidance for a law-abiding life becomes an important duty of the people's regime.

In our provincial People's Committee, we are strengthening the socialist law-abiding life so that a revolutionary system and order can be established in the province, and so everyone can live in a disciplined manner and be deeply aware of the importance of the position and role which the committee occupies in establishing a revolutionary trait; everyone has substantially progressed with the guidance for a socialist law-abiding life.

Our committee put its main strength in the guidance for a socialist law-abiding life. This was to strengthen the

law-abiding indoctrination and legal control so that the state's legal order can be thoroughly abided by with the high awareness by all workers of being the master of the country.

Our workers are the master of the state and society; the people's regime is directly in charge of the guidance for the workers' law- abiding life. Therefore, the masters of the socialist law-abiding life are the workers, and guidance for the law-abiding life of the people's regime organs must be work that allows the workers themselves to consciously take part in the law-abiding life as if they were the master.

Thus, the committee has been giving priority to strengthen the law-abiding indoctrination so that all workers in the province can voluntarily take part in the law-abiding life.

To achieve this, the committee scrupulously worked so all functionaries in the committee could further strengthen the law-abiding indoctrination among the workers.

Functionaries of organs of power are the ones directly in charge of executing the organizational and guidance work of a socialist law-abiding life. Therefore, whether or not the people's regime effectively carries out guidance for a socialist law-abiding life is greatly dependent on how smoothly the functionaries of the organs of power carry out their duties.

Under the guidance of the party organization, the committee has persistently carried out the work of all functionaries in the committee to go into the units they are in charge of more than twice a month to enhance the law-abiding consciousness of the workers. Along with this, the work to sum up the status of the progress of the law-abiding indoctrination work by the committee's functionaries was substantially carried out both monthly and quarterly. Thus, it was possible for all functionaries to all the more smoothly carry out their duties.

Until recently, committee functionaries went to various units of important provinces to implement the party's revolutionary economic strategy, and vigorously carried out the explanation and propaganda work of the law in connection with the detailed situation. Thus, it was possible for all workers to further firmly arm themselves with our party's chuche-oriented law ideology and theory, and work and live in accordance with the demand of the state's laws and regulations.

This year in the province, by highly upholding the party's revolutionary economic strategy, the production of yon-jaejahwa [term not known] fertilizer was increased by 1.8 times than planned. Therefore, agricultural production was increased; some 1,000 chongbo [1 chongbo-2.45 acres] more was created as a base for raw material cultivation; and various kinds of export sources were increased in the cooperative farms of the province. This

shows that this is closely related with the committee functionaries' active work of explaining and propagandizing the law.

To strengthen the law-abiding indoctrination of the workers, the committee has been vigorously carrying out the work to enhance the responsibility and role of legal guidance personnel.

According to the law-abiding indoctrination system as established by the party, 12,700 units explaining the law were organized by the organs, enterprises, and cooperative organizations of the province; 15,500 legal guidance personnel who were prepared politically and practically were selected and stationed. The legal guidance personnel are active advocates and propagandists of the law of our republic, and are directly in charge of law-abiding indoctrination. If they highly manifest their responsibility and role, the law- abiding indoctrination of the workers can be all the more strengthened.

The committee has been persistently pushing ahead with the work of organizing and operating a day for legal guidance personnel every first week of the month. In operating the day for legal guidance personnel every first week of the month, the committee sums up the activities of the legal guidance personnel; presents next month's direction for law-abiding indoctrination; and informs them of newly presented laws and regulations. Whenever the committee organized a day for legal guidance personnel every first week of the month, it carried out various work—such as meetings for exchanging experience—that was to enhance the level of the legal guidance personnel and give model lectures. These have been operated as planned.

During the past nine months, the day for legal guidance personnel, which was held every first week of the month in our provincial People's Committee and the People's Committees of the province's cities and counties, was held some 200 times. Among them, the summing up of the activities of the legal guidance personnel was conducted 127 times; the conveying of laws and regulations was conducted 400 times; and the holding of meetings for exchanging experience and giving model lectures was conducted 145 times.

Therefore, legal guidance personnel in the province are keeping in mind the high responsibility of their work and are all the more vigorously carrying out the work of explaining and propagandizing the law through various forms and methods among the masses.

As of late September, the work of explaining and propagandizing the law held among legal guidance personnel were carried out some 522,000 times. Among them, infiltration work of the original text of legal provisions was carried out 135,900 times; conversation on legal explanations was carried out 265,000; and law-abiding indoctrination through practical struggle and art propaganda were separately carried out 38,000 times.

In particular, under the guidance of the county's People's Committee, legal guidance personnel in Pukchong County vigorously carried out the work of explaining and propagandizing the law in connection with the work to follow and learn the lofty example that was personally shown by the great leader and the dear comrade leader in the field of law-abiding life. Thus, they are greatly contributing to enhancing the workers' law-abiding consciousness.

Legal control is work in which it makes members of society always acquaint themselves with and have an understanding of the status of abiding and executing the law, and is also a work to thoroughly make them abide by the state's law and order. In socialist law-abiding life, the ideological indoctrination work and ideological struggle must be correctly linked with legal control. By doing so, all the workers can thoroughly execute law and regulations with high responsibility.

The Committee also turned just attention to strengthening legal control. First, based on the great leader's teaching and the party's policy, the work of inspection and supervision of executing the law through various forms and methods must be strengthened. Thus, biased tendencies that occurred were correctly straightened out. Moreover, the broad masses were actively inducted in the work of inspection and supervision so that the work can be thoroughly a work of the masses themselves. By doing so, it was possible to solve problems arising in executing the party's policy and the state's law at the appropriate time.

In guidance for socialist law-abiding life, what our Committee put strength in next was to vigorously carry out the movement to gain the title of exemplary law-abiding county in the cities and counties of the province.

The movement to gain the title of exemplary law-abiding county, which was kindled by the dear comrade leader, strengthens socialist law-abiding life, and is the most superior mass movement to establish the revolutionary law-abiding trait throughout the whole society.

Our Provincial People's Committee further strengthened the guidance to vigorously carry out the movement to gain the title of exemplary law-abiding county. This emerged from reflecting the demand of a new stage in our revolutionary development in the cities and counties of the province. Functionaries of the People's Committee of cities and counties in the province must work so that the workers can actively take part in law-abiding life, and deeply inform them of the significance and importance of the movement to gain the title of exemplary law-abiding county in making law-abiding activities conscious and organized. Moreover, a detailed goal for the movement to gain the title of exemplary lawabiding county must be established according to prospective goals and step-by-step goals. The struggle to realize it must be carried out with a goal in mind. Also, the work to create and generalize an example in one unit was promoted in a planned way.

Therefore, among all the counties throughout the county, Pukchong County gained the title of exemplary law-abiding county first. Kowon, Hongwon, and Yodok Counties were also awarded with the honor of exemplary law-abiding county. Also, many cities and counties in the province today have basically reached the standard for being awarded with the title of exemplary law-abiding county.

By further improving and strengthening guidance for socialist law-abiding life, a revolutionary law-abiding trait must be all the more thoroughly established in the province and accelerate the revolution and construction, so that the state's social system can be further consolidated and developed and wholly manifest the superiority of socialism of our own style.

Article: Pyongyang 'Holy Land of the Nation' SK2701110095 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1040 GMT 27 Jan 95

["Holy Land of the Nation, Destiny of the Fellow Countrymen"—KCNA headline]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, January 27 (KCNA)—"Holy Land of the Nation, Destiny of the Fellow Countrymen," an article written by a history professor, Yun Sok-chu, terming the Korean nation the Kim Il-song nation with pride, was published in South Korea recently, arousing deep interest among the people, said Seoul- based Radio Voice of National Salvation.

The article said the reconstruction of the tomb of King Tangun, the ancestral father of the Korean nation, at the foot of Mt. Taepak, Pyongyang last year, was a great event in the circles of historical science, a great event of the nation.

The history of our nation spanning 5,000 years could be confirmed when the remains of Tangun were discovered in Pyongyang and a scientific measurement was made to prove them to be remains of the founder of our country 5011 years ago, the article said, and continued:

This is a splendid fruition of the wise leadership and tireless efforts of respected President Kim Il-song to rid the people of flunkeyism in the study of history and thoroughly establish chuche.

President Kim Il-song, who was born in Mangyongdae in Pyongyang, the time-honored holy land of the nation, was the leader of the nation who dispelled the dark clouds of national ruin, gave the fellow countrymen the vigor of rebirth and shaped a bright future.

He, who materialized the ideal of the nation and humankind in the east of the globe, was a great sage of the present century and the savior of our nation.

The North has become a powerful country in the world.

Tangun is the ancestral father of the nation who accomplished the noble cause of founding the country. But

President Kim Il-song is the father of the homeland of chuche today who revived our nation which had suffered an eclipse on the globe and made it a powerful independent nation. From this point of view, I am calling our paedal nation the Kim Il-song nation, proud of Pyongyang which is more shining as the holy land.

The article further said:

Pyongyang, the holy land of the nation, is shining today and will always shed its brilliant rays. This is because the great leader Kim Chong-il, who is carrying forward the cause of President Kim Il- song, is leading our nation.

There is the great leader Kim Chong-il, a great man from heaven who is inheriting the distinguished exploits performed by President Kim Il-song in founding the country, in the holy land of the nation animated with the spirit of the nation and the historical traditions.

He fully inherited intelligence, strategy, leadership and traits befitting a great man from President Kim Il-song, a peerless legendary hero and patriot.

Since Tangun founded Korea, the great leader Kim Chong-il has been the only son of Mt. Paektu in the paedal nation, who was born in the mountain, the holy mountain of the nation, and fully personified the spirit and mettle of the mountain.

He is the symbol of the spirit of the nation, who has steadfastly defended and further enriched and developed the chuche idea, centred on the popular masses and based on human love, the idea created by President Kim Il-song. He is successfully accomplishing the cause of national independence by closely uniting the people as one with benevolent politics, magnanimous politics based on love for and trust in the people.

He is the same with President Kim Il-song in idea, leadership and traits.

During 30 odd years of his political career, he has enjoyed unquestioned support and respect from the people and fully acquired the authority as the leader. He guides the political, economic, military, diplomatic, cultural and all other fields in the North.

In Pyongyang where Tangun, the father of the paedal nation, was born and founded ancient Korea and Koguryo, a powerful country, demonstrated the might of the wealthy country and the powerful army for nearly 1,000 years, the great leader Kim Chong-il succeeded to President Kim Il-song, a peerless patriot, to take care of this nation. This is, indeed, a great fortune and a great honour for our fellow countrymen.

With the great leader Kim Chong-il, a great man from heaven, Pyongyang has become the everlasting holy land of the nation that defends the spirit of the nation and constantly gives vitamins of national restoration.

Today the father of our nation, the leader of our nation, is President Kim Il-song and the great leader Kim Chong-il. President Kim Il-song is the great leader Kim Chong-il and vice versa.

We must hold in high esteem in all ages them who proved Tangun to be a real person and the ancestral father of the nation, revived the nation and opened a new history of national restoration. Herein lies the destiny of our nation. This is the way of making our nation properly know of its history and carrying it forward, a short cut which enables our nation to defend the spirit of its independence and live as an independent nation and a right path which makes it possible to reunify the divided nation and make it rich and powerful.

Anyone who has the blood of the paedal nation must wholeheartedly worship through generations President Kim Il-song, the father of the nation who defended and glorified the destiny of the nation, and deeply respect and trust Mr. Kim Chong-il, the leader of the nation who is carrying forward his cause, transcending the difference in ideology, idea, political view and religious belief.

South Korea

Arrival of DPRK Delegation in Berlin Reported

SK2701014595 Seoul YONHAP in English 0118 GMT

27 Jan 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Berlin, Jan. 26 [date as received] (YONHAP)—The North Korean delegation arrived in Berlin Thursday for experts' talks with the United States on the type of light-water reactor that will be provided to the North.

The 11-member delegation headed by Kim Chong-u, vice chairman of the External Economy Commission, arrived here aboard Air Koryo Flight JS-215 at 3:10 PM and issued an "arrival statement."

"We have the right to demand that the type of reactor supplied to us should be the safest and most trustworthy one—internationally endorsed," the statement said.

Kim said, "The purpose of this negotiation is about selection of the type of reactor." He did not elaborate.

Sources here said the experts' talks will center on choosing the type of reactor to be specified in the contract between North Korea and the Korea Energy Development Organization (KEDO), the international consortium tasked with supplying reactors to North Korea in return for freezing its nuclear development program.

One of the delegates said they will meet with the U.S. delegation Friday to decide the schedule of the talks, which begin Saturday.

The negotiations are expected to last four days after opening Saturday at the Berlin office of the U.S. Embassy or North Korea's mission here. They can be extended one or two days if need be, a source said.

Arrival Statement Issued

SK2601224995 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 2205 GMT 26 Jan 95

[Report by Yi Myong-ku from Berlin]

[FBIS Translated Text] A North Korean delegation arrived in Berlin for an experts meeting to begin in Berlin on 28 January on the provision of light-water reactors.

In an arrival statement, the North Korean delegation said it will hold negotiations for a selection of the safest, the most credible, and an internationally authenticated light-water reactor [kajang anjonhago silloesong issumyo kukchejoguro kongjungdoen kyongsuroga sonjong toedorok hyopsang hagetta].

Kim Chong-u, vice chairman of North Korea's External Economy Commission and head of the North Korean delegation, said that the selection of a light-water reactor is the most important issue in the upcoming negotiations.

The experts' meeting will be held from 28 through 31 January. The U.S. delegation to the meeting is due to arrive in Berlin on 27 January.

Unification Minister, Talbott Discuss Accord SK2701050295 Seoul YONHAP in English 0452 GMT

SK2701050295 Seoul YONHAP in English 0452 GMT 27 Jan 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Seoul, Jan. 27 (YONHAP)— Deputy Premier and National Unification Minister Kim Tok met U.S. deputy Secretary of State Strobe Talbott at his office Friday morning to discuss implementation of the U.S.-North Korean nuclear framework agreement and resumption of inter-Korean dialogue.

Kim informed Talbott that Seoul believes South-North dialogue should proceed in tandem with Washington-Pyongyang rapprochement, while stressing that inter-Korean talks are necessary to ensure proper implementation of the nuclear accord the United States concluded with North Korea last October, National Unification Board spokesman Kim Kyong-ung said.

Noting Pyongyang is attempting to drive a wedge between South Korea and the United States, Kim said that firm cooperation between the two countries is needed more keenly now than ever before.

Talbott, who arrived in Seoul Thursday for a three-day visit, was to meet over lunch with Foreign Minister Kong No-myong Friday and call on President Kim Yong-sam later in the afternoon.

He is scheduled to hold a press conference at the U.S. Information Service building Friday afternoon and depart Seoul Saturday morning.

President Kim's Meeting With Talbott Reported SK2701112295 Seoul YONHAP in English 1117 GMT 27 Jan 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Seoul, Jan. 27 (YONHAP)— President Kim Yong-sam met visiting U.S. Deputy Secretary of State Strobe Talbott at Chongwadae [presidential offices] Friday afternoon to discuss Korea-U.S. security relations and policies toward North Korea.

President Kim said it is important for the United States to display to North Korea solid relationship between Seoul and Washington.

"The North Korean machination to drive a wedge into Seoul-Washington relations cannot succeed or be tolerated," Kim was quoted as saying by his Press Secretary Pak Chin.

During the meeting, Talbott emphasized that U.S.-North Korea dialogue does not in any way undermine Seoul-Washington relations or becloud the prospects of South-North dialogue.

The presentation of the '94 Martin Luther King peace prize to President Kim served to make it clear again that South Korea and the United States preserve the common values of democracy and human rights, the U.S. official said.

U.S. Deputy Secretary Talbott on N-S Dialogue SK2701125695 Seoul YONHAP in English 1250 GMT 27 Jan 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Seoul, Jan. 27 (YONHAP)—
North Korea will have to resume inter-Korean dialogue without any condition because it is part of the obligations which North Korea should fulfill under the U.S.-North Korea framework agreement reached last October in Geneva, said a high-ranking American official here Friday.

Commenting on North Korea's recent proposal to have inter-Korean talks participated by people from broad-ranging walks, Strobe Talbott, U.S. deputy secretary of state, said, "South-North dialogue is indispensable to the implementation of the framework agreement."

The U.S. official also said in a press conference that any further progress in Washington-Pyongyang relations would depend on whether North Korea is willing to improve relations with South Korea.

"Inter-Korean dialogue is one that must take place immediately to implement the framework agreement," he stressed.

On the issue of the North's conventional arms threat, he said "the conventional arms threat posed by North Korea on the Korean peninsula is still very serious," even if the nuclear issue could be resolved smoothly in the near future.

As long as conventional weapons (of North Korea) remain the current level, Talbott said, the United States will see to it that the current level of the combined forces be maintained on the Korean peninsula.

He said that unless North Korea makes a significant reduction in conventional forces, the United States will maintain a necessary deterrent in the South.

Such measures, of course, will be taken in close consultations with the South Korean Government, the deputy secretary said.

On the nuclear plant model to be provided to North Korea by the Korea Energy Development Organization (KEDO), Talbott said no model other than the South Korean style could be considered for economic, political and financial reasons.

Paper Views U.S. Relations With North, South SK2701050595 Seoul HANGUK ILBO in Korean 27 Jan 95 p 3

[Editorial: "U.S. Caresses Both South and North Korea"]

[FBIS Translated Text] The U.S. Government and Congress's view of South and North Korea has already begun to change. The new Republican-controlled U.S. Congress is holding a marathon of hearings. Following hearings held last week by the Senate Energy Committee and Foreign Affairs Committee, the Senate Defense Committee will open a hearing on the North Korean-U.S. agreement today. The U.S. Administration and Congress' unprecedented attitude of stroking and caressing [tallaego ssudadumnun chase] South and North Korea at the Foreign Affairs Committee's hearing that ended yesterday was very noticeable. In short, the U.S. attitude indicates that the United States will implement the North Korean-U.S. agreement thoroughly based on a stance which is favorable to U.S. interests.

The U.S. attitude of caressing the ROK was plainly shown by Secretary of State Warren Christopher's statement. Answering questions posed by senators, he stated: "The United States has never alienated the ROK from negotiations on the nuclear issue." "ROK-type lightwater reactors must be provided." "The success of the implementation of the North Korean-U.S. agreement depends on South-North dialogue." Secretary of Defense William Perry also stressed: "The North Korean-U.S. agreement is one thing, and the Team Spirit joint military exercise is another." Saying that "North Korea is sincerely implementing the agreement," they applied pressure on North Korea by mentioning that "the United States will again turn to sanctions on North Korea if it does not implement the agreement."

The U.S. caress of South and North Korea is aimed at making the ROK promise to share a considerable part of the more than \$4 billion dollar expense for building light-water reactors and inducing North Korea to return

to the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty led by the United States, as well as creating evidence to prove in the future that the United States has prevented North Korea from developing nuclear weapons.

Just as the U.S. Government and Congress stressed the need for South-North dialogue in an effort to cater to the ROK, North Korea abruptly and stereotypically proposed the so-called grand national meeting. This is viewed as a trick.

North Korean leadership surely knows better than anyone else that it is impossible to discuss the very important issue of reunification at a mass meeting of thousands or tens of thousands of people, and that the South will not accept the proposal. Nevertheless, North Korea made this proposal because it hoped to induce South Korea's rejection of the first North Korean proposal for dialogue since the fiasco caused by their remarks on making Seoul a "sea of fire," and particularly since Kim Il-song's death, so as to propagandize that "the South is avoiding dialogue." In contrast, our government's rejection of the North's proposal for a grand national meeting and the counterproposal to the North for a South-North deputy ministerial meeting to discuss joint celebrations on the anniversary of the national liberation, however, is viewed as being reasonable.

Now we do not have to be astonished by the U.S. attitude of using the two cards—the new North Korean-U.S. approach and the caress of South and North Korea. We should clearly express our position that we will agree on the establishment of diplomatic ties between North Korea and the United States and between North Korea and Japan, as well as on South-North economic cooperation, only when North Korea sincerely implements the nuclear agreement, and that we will not share the expense of reactor provision if North Korea delays implemention of the agreement. At the same time, we should promote and seek diplomacy and relations with the United States, with a more positive [chokkukjok] attitude. We must come out of the illusion that the United States will always have a "blood-tied" alliance with us.

Papers Analyze U.S. Congress Dialogue Resolution

SK2701121895

[FBIS Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of articles and editorials published on 27 January by ROK vernacular newspapers regarding the resolution submitted by the Republican-led U.S. Congress on 25 January urging the resumption of North-South dialogue.

The conservative CHOSON ILBO carries on page 4 a 500-word article by reporter Hong Sok-chun analyzing the expected effect of the resolution. The article analyzes that the resolution has made North-South dialogue a "detonator" for the improvement of U.S.-North Korea relations by April 1995 because an agreement on the

supply of light-water reactors to North Korea must be signed by 21 April, and North-South dialogue has become an important factor of the Clinton administration's policy on the North Korean nuclear issue following the submission of the resolution. The article notes that the ROK Government has also stressed that North-South dialogue should show some kind of progress by April. The article notes that North Korea's proposal for a "Grand National Meeting" appears to prove that North Korea recognizes the mood of improved North-South relations is a prerequisite for opening liaison offices in the United States and North Korea. The article ends by hoping that the ROK Government, which had accepted the U.S. advice that "insisting on North-South dialogue may hinder the nuclear negotiations," will make the most of the Republicans' support and successfully handle the North-South dialogue issue.

The moderate KYONGHYANG SINMUN carries on page 3 a 1,000-word article by Washington-based correspondent Yi Chong-yon on the significance of the resolution. The article analyzes that the resolution means that the U.S. congressmen, who consider the U.S.- North Korea agreed framework is unsatisfactory, would not try to scrap the agreement but demand complementary measures, which require direct dialogue between the North and the South, as well as the mediation of the United States. The article notes that the resolution serves as an "indirect support" for the agreed framework, as well as a "warning" that in the event the agreed framework is not properly implemented, the U.S. Congress would hold the U.S. Government responsible. The article expects that "the U.S. Congress may put a brake on U.S. economic supports for North Korea if North Korea does not accept the resolution urging North-South dialogue but only insists on improving relations with the United States." The article anticipates that the resolution will be unanimously adopted after minor modifications.

The left-leaning HANGYORE SINMUN carries a 900word article by reporter Kim Song-ho on the ROK Government's view on the resolution. The article states that even though the ROK Government believes that the resolution will serve as a positive factor in improving North-South relations because it will impose pressure on North Korea, the ROK Government does not expect an immediate effect. The article reports "the ROK Government feels rather displeased over some of the contents of the resolution which are beyond the U.S. control, for instance, the demand for sending high-ranking U.S. officials to North Korea as the envoy of the U.S. President," which is almost an "intervention". The article reports that relevant ROK Government officials assess that the resolution is a reflection of the conservative Republicans' position, as well as a consideration for the ROK Government and people, who will bear most of the cost for the light-water reactors for North Korea. The article also states that the U.S. Congress may have helped the U.S. Government urge North Korea to

resume dialogue, which is difficult for the U.S. Government to mention to North Korea.

The moderate CHUNGANG ILBO carries on page 3 a 700-word editorial entitled "Urging of North-South Dialogue by the U.S. Congress." The editorial assesses the resolution as a signal that the U.S. Government will actively promote North-South dialogue. Even though the resolution does not have binding force, the editorial appraises the demands of the resolution will be reflected in U.S. negotiations on the North Korean nuclear issue, and the resolution reminds the fact that the North-South dialogue is a key to the stabilization of the Korean peninsula. The editorial states the resolution sends a clear message to North Korea that "there is a limit to North Korea approaching the United States without dialogue with the South."

Group Formed To Help U.S. Firms Trade in North

SK2601030895 Seoul YONHAP in English 0135 GMT 26 Jan 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Los Angeles, Jan. 25 (YON-HAP)—An advisory company has been established here to help U.S. firms looking to invest in or trade with North Korea.

Chosun Network Co. (CNC) said Wednesday that it has been preparing for full-fledged promotion of trade between North Korea and the United States since its formation Jan. 9.

Kim Un-ha, publisher of a pro-Pyongyang newspaper here and co- chairman of the (North) Korea-America Friendship Association, is president of the firm, a CNC official said.

Besides acting as an intermediary and advising U.S. firms interested in doing business with North Korea, the company will also help the North Koreans sell their goods in the United States.

The official explained that CNC will seek potential U.S. investors for study tours in North Korea and help them draw up contracts with the communist country.

CNC will also introduce North Korean goods in the United States and carry out public relations activities here for Pyongyang.

The CNC official said the company has set up a branch office in Beijing to promote North Korean trade with Southeast Asian countries.

Meanwhile, four pro-Pyongyang travel agencies in the United States have received applications from about 500 people wishing to visit North Korea for the "Pyongyang International Sports and Culture Festival" from April 28-30.

The four companies, entrusted by North Korean authorities with finding tourists in the United States for the festival, earlier set a goal of 500, which they have already met.

Based on this response, they plan to sign up a total of 1,000 tourists, officials at the tourism companies said.

U.S. Helicopter Pilot Returns to Duties in Unit SK2701022795 Seoul YONHAP in English 0223 GMT 27 Jan 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Seoul, Jan. 27 (YONHAP)—U.S. Army Chief Warrant Officer Bobby Hall, who went back to the United States after being released by North Korea late last year, will arrive here aboard Northwest Flight 029 at 8:00 PM Friday and then return to his unit.

Hall was detained for 14 days in North Korea after he and his co-pilot, David Hilemon, strayed into North Korean airspace on Dec. 17 aboard an OH-58c helicopter and made an emergency landing North of the truce line.

Washington announced later the chopper had been downed and Hilemon died in the incident.

Measures To Take Over Panmunjom Said Discussed

SK2701062795 Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean 27 Jan 95 p 1

[FBIS Translated Text] It was learned on 26 January that the government plans to map out measures to sternly counter North Korea's attempt to destabilize the Military Armistice Agreement [MAC] and to replace it with a peace agreement through direct negotiations with the United States. As part of such measures, the government plans to take over control of Panmunjom and to sign a travel agreement with North Korea.

The background behind such a decision lies in the fact that North Korea has revealed its intention to draw up "a mid-term measure" prior to the conclusion of the peace agreement and that, on 23 January, North Korea officially informed the Polish delegation to the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission to withdraw by the end of February.

In this connection, the government will send a high-ranking official to the United States to convey our government's stance that the United States should not be dragged into North Korea's peace agreement offensive in any way, and to discuss joint measures with the U.S. side.

Particularly, the government reportedly examined steps to push ahead with the conclusion of a travel agreement between the North and South. This is because ROK technicians and materials should have a guarantee to travel freely to North Korea for the construction of the light-water reactors.

The government has already requested that the United States persuade North Korea to comply with the ROK

proposal on signing the ravel agreement in the processing of drawing up the agreement for the provision of light-water reactors.

In accordance with conclusions from experts that the management of Panmunjom, which is now owned by the UN Command, should be handed over to the ROK and North Korea, the government will reportedly hold talks with the U.S. side to settle this matter. The government will also pass on its stance to the U.S. side that the issue on replacing the current Armistice Agreement with a peace system must be resolved between the North and South—the parties concerned—within the framework of the North-South Basic Agreement since it is the North Korean and ROK forces that face each other along the Military Demarcation Line.

In the foreign policy advisory meeting held 23 January, the participants contended that North Korea's attempt to hold the initiative through direct negotiations with the United States stems from the lack of the ROK's military sovereignty, and urged the government to take over control of Panmunjom.

DPRK Peace Agreement 'Offensive' Reviewed SK2701084295 Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean

SK2701084295 Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean 27 Jan 95 p 2

[Article by reporter Kim Cha-su]

[FBIS Translated Text] It has been learned that the government is reviewing measures to actively counter North Korea's offensive toward the United States asking to conclude a peace agreement. This is reportedly because the government has judged that there is no possibility North Korea will comply with the building of a peace system on the Korean peninsula through North-South dialogue. In other words, this is because North Korea has opposed our government's position that the issue of replacing the Armistice Agreement with a peace agreement should be settled within the framework of the North-South Basic Agreement in accordance with the principle of solving matters directly between North and South Korea. Furthermore, North Korea is attempting to use an abnormal method of linking the implementation of the U.S.-North Korean agreed framework signed in Geneva with its demands for concluding a peace agreement with the United States.

Accordingly, the government believes that what is most important at present is to prevent in advance the United States from being entangled in North Korea's offensive maneuvers in reaching a peace agreement with the United States.

In the talks with visiting U.S. Deputy Secretary of State Strobe Talbott on 26 January, Foreign Minister Kong No-myong expressed deep concerns about North Korea's moves to cripple the present armistice system and stressed our government's principle that the Armistice Agreement should remain in effect until the time it is

replaced with a peace agreement through direct negotiations between North and South Korea.

The government has reportedly decided to send a high-ranking official to the United States to discuss this matter in early February. This is also to deliver to the U.S. side our government's firm position of opposing even the discussion of the matter with North Korea.

In connection with North Korea's demand for concluding a peace agreement directly with the United States under the pretext that South Korea is not a signatory of the Armistice Agreement, the government sees the United States, too, is not a signatory in a strict sense, for the United States then signed the Armistice Agreement on behalf of the United Nations.

Moreover, the parties responsible for preventing military confrontation along the Military Demarcation Line are North and South Korea. Therefore, the replacement of a peace agreement should naturally be resolved through North-South dialogue.

The ROK Government is keeping a close eye on the situation in which Czech and PRC troops representing the North side of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission withdrew in April 1993 and on 15 December 1994, respectively, and the only remaining Polish troops are on the verge of being dismissed. Furthermore, North Korea has not attended any meeting of the Military Armistice Commission since a South Korean was appointed the South side representative of the Military Armistice Commission in March 1991. This shows that the UN's management of Panmunjom is the remains of the armistice agreement.

During the foreign policy advisory meeting held on 23 January, experts voiced their opinion that following the retrieval of the "peacetime operational control," management of Panmunjom should also be returned and directly handled by South and North Korea in order to recover territorial sovereignty. The ROK Government admitted the justification and is reportedly discussing this issue with the United States.

The ROK Government's consideration of a travel agreement between the North and the South is believed to be a result of practical needs. It is inevitable for the ROK to take the leading role in supplying the light-water reactors to North Korea based on the North Korea-U.S. nuclear agreement signed in Geneva. The opinions of government officials have been consistent in that the ROK technicians and materials must freely travel to and from North Korea. Thus, the government stance is that a travel agreement must precede the peace mechanism in order to avoid the regulation which currently mandates prior approval by the UN troops for travels using the Panmunjom channel. As a precedent, East and West Germany signed a travel agreement prior to the signing of a basic agreement.

Foreign Minister Stresses N-S Direct Talks

SK2701024395 Seoul YONHAP in English 0236 GMT 27 Jan 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Seoul, Jan. 27 (YONHAP)—
Foreign Minister Kong No-myong has urged North
Korea to sit with South Korea at the negotiating table to
discuss replacing the existing armistice accord with a
peace treaty, dismissing the North's bid for direct talks
with the United States.

"Mark Clark, commander-in-chief of the United Nations Command (UNC), signed the Korea Armistice Agreement in his capacity as representative of the UNC, not in place of the United States, 42 years ago," said Kong, speaking to a seminar on "the globalization and the direction of South Korea's diplomatic policy" sponsored by the Korea Regional Policy Institute, a grouping of politicians and senior government officials concerned with national security and diplomacy.

Accordingly, it is unreasonable for the North to demand direct talks with the United States on scrapping the Armistice Agreement in favor of a peace pact, Kong asserted.

The parties to the Armistice Agreement are North Korea and the United Nations and the United States alone has nothing to do with the accord, even though it was signed by a U.S. general, he said.

Citing the South-North basic agreement signed in 1991, which calls on the two sides to try to replace the Armistice Agreement with a peace pact and to observe the current system until they produce a treaty, he demanded that the North stop boycotting Military Armistice Commission (MAC) meetings.

Denying recent press reports that the South Korean Government plans to take control of the truce village of Panmunjom from the UNC, Kong said that the Armistice Agreement must be observed until the South and North craft a peace treaty through direct talks.

He then voiced appreciation for the UNC's role in checking northern aggression since July 1953, when the Armistice Agreement was signed.

On the North Korean nuclear issue, he reaffirmed that Seoul must play a central role in providing light-water reactors to the North and that the two Koreas must have direct talks to reach a satisfactory solution.

Government Countermove to North Proposal Viewed

SK2701093495 Seoul MUNHWA ILBO in Korean 27 Jan 94 p 2

[Editorial: "Realistic Approach Should Be Made Toward North- South Dialogue"]

[FBIS Translated Text] The government has made a positive move to make a breakthrough in North-South

relations which have been deadlocked, thus the people are paying attention to its outcome.

The government partially accepted the proposal made by the North Korean side for "a grand national conference and joint celebrations of the 50th anniversary of national liberation," and made a counterproposal for holding vice minister-level talks. This can be assessed as the government's active efforts to settle North-South relations which still remain strained.

We hope that the North Korean authorities will not reject this ROK Government counterproposal. The "grand national conference," which the North Korean authorities have repeatedly called for in the past, is intended to have representatives of political parties and public organizations in the North and the South, as well as overseas compatriots, jointly participate in the conference to determine the method of national reunification. Thus, its pretext may sound plausible but a practical result can hardly be expected, because it is indeed unrealistic for several thousands and tens of thousands of people to gather in a place by excluding the governments of both sides and discuss the reunification issuethe nation's supreme task. The effort would be fruitless. This being the situation, the government refused the "grand national conference" but proposed vice ministerial-level talks to discuss measures for "jointly celebrating the 50th anniversary of national liberation." This can be called a realistic and reasonable step.

It was reported that the government intends to push ahead with the conclusion of a North-South passage agreement and to recover the management right of Panmunjom in order to cope with North Korea's attempt to annul the Armistice Agreement and with its offensive for concluding a peace agreement with the United States. If the report is true, such a government step will be assessed as realistic and appropriate. The government's plan to positively cope with the North Korean offensive for a peace agreement with the United States can be interpreted as a move to deal with "the interim step" suggested by North Korea. Being smooth in their dialogue with four American experts on the Korean peninsula who recently visited North Korea, the Pyongyang authorities suggested that they would propose an "interim step" during negotiations with the United States.

When the treaty for supporting light-water reactors, which is expected to be signed by 20 April at the latest, is settled, the entrance of ROK technicians and materials into North Korea will emerge as a matter of fact. This being the case, the conclusion of a North-South passage agreement will be, in actuality, inevitable. Besides, after the end of February, the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission [NNSC] will be a "lame organization" because the North Korean side officially notified the Polish delegation that it should withdraw by that time. After the NNSC lost its function following the withdrawal of the Chinese delegation from the Armistice

Commission in September of last year, the Armistice Agreement could not but face crippling [pahaeng], at least in appearance.

With a view to realistically coping with this situation, the government is pushing ahead with the plan to, jointly and directly with North Korea, manage Panmunjom, presently managed by the UN Forces and the North Korean Army. Thus, this plan can be considered a method that deserves to be reviewed as a preliminary step in the switching over the Armistice Agreement to a peace agreement.

We hope that at a time when U.S. lawmakers are calling for a mutual reduction of armed forces in North and South Korea, the Clinton administration will positively respond to such ROK moves. We also expect that the North Korean authorities will demonstrate foresight wisdom toward the realistic approach of the South Korean side.

DPRK Daily Responds 'Negatively' to Talks

SK2701065195 Seoul YONHAP in English 0640 GMT 27 Jan 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Seoul, Jan. 27 (YONHAP)— Pyongyang responded negatively Thursday to Seoul's proposal for inter-Korean vice ministers' talks and again demanded the South repeal the National Security Law, suggesting that it will officially reject the offer.

In an editorial carried by the NODONG SINMUN, the organ of the Workers' (Communist) Party, Pyongyang said, "North and South Korea cannot decide on the way of unification if they depend only upon the will and wisdom of a few particular people."

On Wednesday, Seoul issued a counterproposal calling for South-North vice ministers' talks at the earliest possible date, welcoming Pyongyang's proposal for a joint celebration of the 50th anniversary of Korea's liberation from Japanese colonial rule.

But the South rejected the grand national conference that the North proposed to hold on Aug. 15 this year. Pyongyang had said that South and North Koreans from various walks of life as well as overseas Koreans could participate in the conference to discuss unification.

The editorial in the NODONG SINMUN said all obstacles to a smooth celebration and the grand national conference must be removed first, pointing the finger at the National Security Law which punishes those who sympathize with, praise or encourage the enemy—that is, North Korea.

"If the National Security Law is not repealed, we cannot smoothly hold the two events. So all Koreans from South and North Korea and overseas should fight to repeal the National Security Law," the editorial said.

DPRK Said Pursuing Economic Ties With Russia

SK2701022595 Seoul YONHAP in English 0158 GMT 27 Jan 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Seoul, Jan. 27 (YONHAP)— North Korea is actively pursuing economic cooperation with the Russian Far East, sending missions almost every week and concluding trade accords with provincial governments in the region.

Korea Trade Promotion Corp. (KOTRA) data revealed Friday that North Korea has not abandoned its hope of restoring full economic relations with Russia even though Moscow is keen on dealing with South Korea.

The KOTRA data showed that Pyongyang is trying to maintain cooperative relations with Russian provincial governments since the Kremlin has placed policy priority on South Korea in the financial, economic and political sectors.

Officials of provincial governments in the Russian Far East disclosed that North Korean missions visit the area almost every week, noting that North Korean Consulgeneral in Nakhodka Yi Song- tok asked the governor of Sakhalin, Krasnoyarov, to provide his country with equipment and technicians after it found potential undersea deposits of oil and gas last October in the West (Yellow) Sea off its northwestern coast.

The Russian governor was said to be receptive to detailed North Korean proposals for Russian assistance when a North Korean mission visited the city of Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk last December.

In one proposal, Pyongyang reportedly suggested that in return for the Sakhalin government's assistance, it would supply consumer goods, nonferrous metals and heavy equipment at low prices or import major goods from Sakhalin.

Last November, another North Korean mission headed by Han Su-kil, chairman of the External Economic Commission, visited the Jewish autonomous prefecture and also signed a protocol on Nov. 16 with the Sakhalin government on commercial and economic cooperation for 1995-96.

After the protocol signing, Chairman Han and Sakhalin Deputy Governor Valeriy Gurevitch said they would form a contractual joint venture in the vegetable-growing, lumber, chemical, consumer goods and production sectors, saying deals would be settled with Swiss francs or U.S. dollars.

Since last autumn, members of the North Korean External Economic Commission and company representatives have been heading for the maritime province of Siberia, Khabarovsk and Amur Province while signing various investment, scientific cooperation and commercial contracts.

Dutch Bank Plans To Open Office in DPRK

SK2601070295 Seoul YONHAP in English 0629 GMT 26 Jan 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Seoul, Jan. 26 (YONHAP)—ING [Internationale Nederlanden Group] Bank of the Netherlands will set up a joint-venture bank with (North) Korea Foreign Insurance Co. (KFIC) in the Najin-Sonbong Free Economic and Trade Zone on the northeastern coast of North Korea this year.

Under the agreement with KFIC which is subject to Pyongyang's approval, the joint venture known as ING-North East Asia Bank, in which the Dutch bank will have a 70-percent stake, will open an office in Pyongyang during the second quarter although its registered office will be in the Najin-Songbong area, ING Bank announced through its Seoul office Thursday.

The ING-North East Asia Bank will focus on trade finance, international payment services, working capital and project financing, the announcement said.

The first western bank to operate in the reclusive country, ING Bank is affiliated with Internationale Nederlanden Group and currently maintains an international network of 75 offices in 46 countries around the world including South Korea, China, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Japan, the Philippines, Singapore, Vietnam, Taiwan and Thailand.

KFIC holds a state monopoly over all non-life insurance business in North Korea.

Former U.S. Ambassador on Kim Chong-il Issue SK2701060995 Seoul SEOUL SINMUN in Korean 27 Jan 95 pp 1, 2

[FBIS Translated Text] It was learned that a high-ranking North Korean official revealed there is a possibility that North Korea's Kim Chong-il may extend the mourning period of Kim Il-song's death to three years.

What is very notable about the three-year mourning period is the possibility that Kim Chong-il, who currently only holds the post of supreme commander of the Korean People's Army, may not succeed to the vacant post of state president and party general secretary for the next two years.

Such a possibility was revealed in a 25 January SEOUL SINMUN exclusive interview with former U.S. Ambassador to the ROK James Lilley who returned to Washington after visiting Pyongyang 14-21 January.

Ambassador Lilley said that when he asked high-ranking North Korean officials why Kim Chong-il had not yet succeeded to Kim Il-song's titles, they responded: "Because we are in a mourning period which may be extended to three years."

Ambassador Lilley asked inquisitively: "Then does it mean Kim Chong-il will not publicly appear for the next

two and a half years?" The North Korean official replied that he cannot give a detailed answer, emphasizing: "There will be an important political announcement sometime this year. You must closely observe this."

Ambassador Lilley refused to offer any explanation regarding this remark, conveying that they also said: "It is not appropriate to change posts so hastily during the mourning period."

Ambassador Lilley said that among the figures he met, it seemed clear that three—Foreign Minister Kim Yongnam; Kim Yong-sun, secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea; and Kim Chong-u, vice chairman of the External Economic Affairs Committee—are members of the group making policy decisions in North Korea. Kim Yong-sun, who is in charge of South-North dialogue, is the closest aide to Kim Chong-il; everyone recognized that he occupies a powerful position.

Ambassador Lilley visited North Korea with three other people, including Professor Kim Yong-chin of George Washington University, to take part in a seminar between the university and North Korea's Disarmament and Peace Institute, and to carry out a personal contact. Lilley stated that the day before President Kim Il-song died, Kim Chong-u, vice chairman of the External Economic Affairs Committee, had explained to him the overall plan of the Najin-Sonbong district. Ambassador Lilley added that he saw Kim Il-song on television receiving a briefing on opening up the "socialist market economy region," which is the free trade zone with much interest.

Ambassador Lilley said there was no supporting evidence regarding claims there was a serious dispute between the North Korean military and the Foreign Ministry during the process to return the pilot of a U.S. military helicopter that flew into North Korea late last year. Lilley said there was no discord, but rather it was an approach aimed at obtaining the desired results of external propaganda.

In connection with the resumption of South-North dialogue, North Korea is demanding three terms—an apology from the ROK for not having allowed South Koreans to mourn Kim Il-song's death; abolition of the National Security Law; and release of long-term unconverted prisoners. Ambassador Lilley feels these are negotiating cards.

Ambassador Lilley added that North Korea showed expectations toward Samsung's promotion of establishing a communications information center in the Najin-Sonbong district. Lilley also stated that the 200-megawatt thermal power station in this region had ceased operation for the last 18 months due to a lack of oil, but is now preparing to resume operations again because it received the first batch of heavy oil from the United States, amounting to 50,000 tonnes.

'Separated Families' Representatives Hold Meeting

SK2701054895 Seoul YONHAP in English 0542 GMT 27 Jan 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Seoul, Jan. 27 (YONHAP)— The government would seek to reopen inter-Korean Red Cross talks as soon as possible to realize free mail exchanges and reunions of dispersed family members, Deputy Prime Minister Kim Tok said Friday.

Kim, concurrently national unification minister, made the remark in a meeting with representatives of separated families at the office of five North Korean provinces.

The administration plans to offer its full support in confirming whether individuals are dead or alive and in helping with family reunions in third countries, Kim said.

North Reportedly Restructuring External Economy SK2701005095 Seoul YONHAP in English 0036 GMT 27 Jan 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Seoul, Jan. 27 (YONHAP)— Prompted by rapprochement with the United States, North Korea is reportedly restructuring the external economic cooperation system of the Administration Council or cabinet.

Pyongyang is promoting the establishment of a new economic cooperation body under the cabinet's External Economy Commission, placing under it the Koryo People's Industrial Development Council (KPIDC), which oversees business links with South Korean firms, and similar organizations, officials and business sources well versed in North Korean affairs said Friday.

The KPIDC's functions, however, will be maintained although its designation might be changed, the sources said.

KPIDC Chairman Yi Song-nok contacted South Korean businessmen in Pyongyang and China as recently as early January, they said.

The plans to reorganize the administrative system related to the external economy were apparently spurred by confidence in outside economic contacts thanks to improved relations with Washington, and a policy of attracting South Korean firms to the Najin-Songbong Free Economic and Trade Zone, the sources speculated.

The officials and business sources had no information on the new administrative body's name and which organizations other than the KPIDC will be placed under it.

The KP!DC has taken charge of development projects in the Pyongyang and Nampo areas, and the External Economic Cooperation Promotion Committee, headed by Kim Chong-u, those in the Najin-Sonbong zone. This brought Kim Chong-u to the forefront in recent contacts with South Korean businessmen, overshadowing Yi Song-nok, the sources said.

\$50 Million Set Aside for Korean Quake Victims SK2701135595 Seoul YONHAP in English 0850 GMT 27 Jan 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Seoul, Jan. 27 (YONHAP)— Extending another helping hand to Korean residents in Japan affected by the killer earthquake that claimed over 5,000 lives last week, the South Korean Government has decided to provide 50 million dollars in loans to Korean businessmen.

The Bank of Korea will confer with the Finance-economy Ministry and announce specific financing procedures for the loans, which are to be extended via the credit cooperatives of Korean residents in Japan on a long-term, low-interest basis. Prime Minister Yi Hong-ku made the decision Friday after consulting with Deputy Premier and Finance-economy Minister Hong Chae-hyong and Foreign Minister Kong No-myong.

The government also expanded the limit for quake-affected Koreans to carry their assets out of the country, from the current 100,000 dollars to 200,000 from Friday, and the ceiling for remittances by relatives here to Koreans in Japan from the present 5,000 dollars per case to 50,000 dollars.

In addition, the government is permitting Korean banks in Japan to make loans to ethnic Korean quake victims by using their property here as collateral or through guarantees of Koreans here.

Temblor-damaged local branches of domestic companies can also borrow money from Japanese financial organs for the purpose of returning to normalcy, the government said.

The payment limit for upkeep of overseas offices of domestic companies was expanded from the current 20,000 dollars monthly to 50,000 dollars.

Contributions collected here can be remitted without restrictions, the government noted.

Moscow Bilateral Meeting Held on Nuclear Waste

SK2601084595 Seoul YONHAP in English 0748 GMT 26 Jan 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Seoul, Jan. 26 (YONHAP)—South Korea may provide I million U.S. dollars worth of equipment to help Russia treat nuclear waste in the East Sea [Sea of Japan] to protect it from further contamination, Foreign Ministry officials said Thursday.

At a three-day bilateral meeting that opened in Moscow Monday, the two sides also exchanged views on ways to prevent dumping of nuclear waste into the East Sea and other environmental issues, according to the officials.

During the first meeting of the joint committee on environmental cooperation between South Korea and Russia, the two sides agreed to exchange experts to boost the "green" industry which is growing fast in both countries, they said.

Choe Yong-chin, director-general of the ministry's International Economic Affairs Bureau, represented South Korea at the meeting while the Russian side was led by M.B. Mikhail, deputy minister of the Ministry of Protection of the Environment and Natural Resources of the Russian Federation.

Joint projects proposed during the meeting included exchanges of environment-related information, studies on migratory birds and rare species, and construction of sewage treatment facilities in Sakhalin and the Russian Far East city of Khabarovsk.

The two sides agreed to hold the second meeting of the joint committee on environmental cooperation in Seoul early next year, the officials said.

A meeting of experts on migratory birds was also held in Moscow Tuesday to discuss protecting over 300 species of birds and studying their migration routes, they added.

Stock Prices Plunge After One-Day Rebound

SK2701061495 Seoul YONHAP in English 0514 GMT 27 Jan 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Seoul, Jan. 27 (YONHAP)— The stock market plunged amid an across-the-board sales rush Friday morning.

When the market opened, the previous day's strong note continued as the bull dashed to large-capital and petrochemical issues.

But the bear soon overwhelmed the bourse, which was pervaded by a general feeling that Thursday's rebound was a mere technical reaction. The composite stock price index plummeted 21.96 points from the previous day's close to 905.89 at 11:00 AM, threatening to plunge below the 900-point psychological resistance mark.

As soon as the bell rang for the afternoon session, however, the bull shoved aside the bear, pushing up the key index to 917.07—still off 10.78.

Seoul Decides on Funds for Securities Firms

SK2701120195 Seoul YONHAP in English 1119 GMT 27 Jan 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Seoul, Jan. 27 (YONHAP)— The government on Friday decided to furnish 200 billion won (roughly 254.7 million U.S. dollars) to securities firms as a means of stabilizing lately plummeting share prices.

An official at the Finance and Economy Ministry said securities firms will be advised to purchase stocks and

company debentures with the money to be made available on Saturday in securities financing.

Securities firms wish to buy stocks but they suffer fund shortage because banks and investment financing have collected loans they had given to securities companies, the official added.

DLP Completes National Convention Preparations SK2701095795 Seoul YONHAP in English 0718 GMT 27 Jan 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Seoul, Jan. 27 (YONHAP)— The ruling Democratic Liberal Party (DLP) has completed preparations for its Feb. 7 national convention after holding a series of official meetings of the central executive council, caucus and local chapter chairmen.

While discussing its constitution, regulations and platform, the DLP decided it will not change its name, a controversial issue that has rocked the party ever since the label "United Korea (Tong-il Hankuk) Party" was first mentioned.

Officials explained the fresh reforms are designed to boost the DLP's image as a newly born party capable of meeting the era of globalization, localization and national unification.

The gist of the party constitution and regulations calls for democratic and rational operation by expanding opportunities for members to participate in party affairs, improvement of its structure through the introduction of open competition, and establishment of its status as a true policy-making political party.

However, the party decided to retain the main framework of its present leadership—chairman, secretarygeneral, chief policy- maker and floor leader—while allowing first- and second-term lawmakers to take part in major DLP affairs.

It also decided to place six committees under the secretary- general so that more legislators and local chapter heads can get in on panel activities.

The present postholders' meeting was expanded to a six-man session attended by the chairman, national convention chairman, secretary-general, chief policy-maker, floor leader and first state minister for political affairs.

Noteworthy of the revised party constitution and regulations is the introduction of open competition to elect the chairmen of big cities, provincial and local chapters by forming an electoral college.

The party will also conduct a limited contest to select candidates running for the mayoral posts of six large cities and for provincial governorships.

In particular, the floor leader will be elected at a caucus meeting from among candidates recommended by the DLP president with a guaranteed term of one year. The basic platform, composed of five planks and 30 articles, envisages the party's direction in the 21st century while presenting three major guidelines for globalization, localization and a common welfare system for all Koreans.

Another notable change in the basic policy is the deletion of the parliamentary cabinet system factor, one of the bases for the three- party merger in 1990.

Kim Chong-pil Aide: Desire To Form Party 'Fact' SK2601064295 Seoul YONHAP in English 0600 GMT 26 Jan 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Seoul, Jan. 26 (YONHAP)— Kim Chong- pil, former Chairman of the ruling Democratic Liberal Party (DLP), has reportedly begun drawing up detailed plans to create a new party after returning Wednesday from a five-day trip to the United States.

Following his arrival in Seoul, Kim has had a series of contacts with his confidents including DLP legislators Ku Cha-chun and Cho Pu-yong and attended a New Year's ceremony thrown by "Karak-hoe," a club of his clansmen, at the Seoul Garden Hotel.

As Kim has already announced his voluntary resignation as DLP chairman, he will likely try to widen his base of support by pursuing DLP lawmakers belonging to the "Konghwa (Republican)" and "Minjong (Democratic Justice)" factions.

A close aide to Kim said his desire to form a new party is already an established fact, but he will not move hastily nor place his "Konghwa" members at the fore.

The aide disclosed that Kim was invited to be guest speaker for the Kwanhun Club, a senior journalists' fraternity, but said he would comply with the request "after his position on pending issue is clarified."

Kim is not expected to actually organize a new party for quite some time as members of the "Minju" (Democratic) faction and key DLP postholders are still trying to persuade him to abandon the scheme.

Construction, Transportation Minister on Issues

SK2701035295 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES SUPPLEMENT in English 27 Jan 95 p 1,3

[Report by O Yong-chin]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The Construction and Transportation Ministry, born in a merger of two ministries amid a major government structural realignment late last year, is emerging as a "mega" government agency supervising national affairs related to construction and transportation.

Despite its resultant large structure, the ministry is executing is affairs as efficiently and smoothly as possible without any noticeable hitches.

It is little disputed that Minister O Myong, who has taken the helms of the new ministry, is playing a major role in its smooth operation.

His installation as the helmsman is closely related to his methodical and effective management of key projects during his stint as transportation minister.

But, in his job, he is facing a mountain of herculean tasks. To name a few, they include the construction of the New Seoul International Airport and the Seoul-Pusan high-speed rail system as well as the execution of measures to uproot land speculation.

Following are excerpts from an interview with THE KOREA TIMES on impending key issues he is faced with.

Question: The Seoul International Airport and the Seoul-Pusan high-speed rail system are the two major projects being pushed under the Construction and Transportation Ministry at present. Is the construction proceeding as scheduled? If so, what is their status?

Answer: The two projects are indispensable to Korea's becoming the center of trade transportation in Asia. Thus, the two are quite beyond mere transportation facilities in terms of importance. They will greatly affect balanced regional development and the country's international competitiveness.

As for the new airport, which is tentatively named New Seoul International Airport, about 15.7 percent of construction has been completed since ground was broken in November 1992. Last year, the seawall was completed around the coastal area off Yongjong-do Island to be reclaimed.

The foundation will be laid for the construction of a runway, passenger terminals and hangers later this year, while compensation for fishing rights for residents in the area will be also completed.

The first phase of construction will be finished by 1999 as scheduled. After a year of test-running the facilities, the airport will be opened in 2000.

Concerning the Seoul-Pusan highspeed rail system, about one third of construction for the pilot route between Chonan and Taejon has been completed. This year, trackbeds are to be laid on the route between Seoul and Chonan. An office of the Korea High-Speed Rail Construction Authority (KHRC) was opened in Paris earlier this month, preparing for the smooth transfer technology from GEC- Alsthom, provider of rolling stock.

Q: The traffic situation particularly in major cities is said to be "passing the point of no return," meaning it is going from bad to worse and it is impossible to turn it around. Any measures to get it under control?

A: The problem is that the number of private cars is increasing at a rate outstripping the increase of roads, subways and other transportation infrastructure.

We are approaching the problem in two ways: slowing the rapid increase in the number of private vehicles and providing alternative transportation means for commuters. We are concentrating on expanding subway networks in major cities. This year, 264 km of subway lines will be laid in six major cities, while 868 coaches are to be added to the present fleet. That means that most of trainsets operating on the existing railways will be composed of 10 cars instead of six at present.

An average operational interval will be cut down to 2.5 minutes from the current 3 minutes. At the same time, bus-only lanes, which are evaluated as a success, are to be expanded by instituting them in chronic bottlenecks around the clock. I think that the combination of the two will ease the current traffic congestion to a great extent.

Also under consideration is a package of strong tactics, including "congestion tolls," which will be imposed on private cars without passengers, and the institution of lanes to be exclusively used for private cars carrying three or more.

In addition, we are encouraging the construction of inner-city housing complexes and the improvement of the existing ones to accommodate more people inside the city or its vicinity and minimize the number of commuters.

Q: There arises a fear of "sippuje," the formula forcing drivers of private cars to leave them home once every 10 days, will become permanent due to the ever-worsening traffic conditions. The formula is intended to last for four months, not to be open-ended. What is your response?

A: Making sippuje permanent or introducing an "oddeven" number system is not being considered at present. It is because the private car use restriction is seen to violate the basic rights of people. Furthermore, there is a high chance of backfiring by triggering people into buying second cars and adding to congestion in case of the odd-even number restriction system.

I want to make clear once again that sippuje, scheduled to kick in Seoul from Feb. 3, will last for four months and be lifted as scheduled on May 31.

The basic material issued by Seoul City Hall is making my case stronger. According to its survey, about 65 percent of respondents said that they would use their private cars again if the restrictive systems, the sippuje or odd-even number system, ease the traffic congestion.

Q: It is said that the ministry is considering liberalizing the taxi business by allowing anybody wishing to operate one to do so on registration, abolishing the current selective permit system. What causes the ministry to consider it despite predictions it will cause lots of opposition?

A: Korea's transportation market is scheduled to open next year. Thus, it is inevitable that we should relax the

rules regulating taxi operation so that people who pass certain qualifications can operate taxis.

At present, we are recommending a proposal to that effect revising the Automobile Operation & Business Law. Public hearings will be held to reflect fully public opinions with exports to be consulted.

Q: The ministry is also responsible for the supervision and execution of construction projects and the related regulations. At the moment, the public are showing great interest preventing jerry-building and ensuring safety in the construction field. What specific measures are being considered?

A: It can never be underestimated that safety is the most important feature in construction of public or private buildings. To make sure that every construction work is done according to the book, the ministry has introduced a regulation to make third-party inspections from the planning stage, while frequently conducting on- the-spot checks to uproot jerry-building.

Q: A legal device, which makes it mandatory for one to hold real estate in his or her own name, is being introduced to prevent "shady" realty dealings. Although the Ministry of Finance and Economy and the Justice Ministry have drawn up its legal ground, a key to its success relies on how the Construction and Transportation Ministry will execute it. How do you plan to execute it?

A: The real name system is a "two-edged sword," which is expected to contribute greatly to stabilizing realty prices and making more efficient the regulations.

For the more efficient execution of the system, we have completed and launched an electronic network monitoring realty possession, dealing, and movement by individuals.

Statistical Office Reports Industrial Figures

SK2701103695 Seoul YONHAP in English 0757 GMT 27 Jan 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Seoul, Jan. 27 (YONHAP)— Industrial production in December climbed 12.1 percent from a year earlier, the third consecutive month of two-digit growth following 13.5 percent in November and 14.9 percent in October.

The increase for all of 1994 stood at 10.9 percent, more than double the 4.4-percent rise recorded in 1993 and the highest since 1988's 13.2-percent surge.

The National Statistical Office (NSO) said Friday that production growth in the final quarter of last year would be 0.3 to 0.4 percentage point higher than the Bank of Korea [BOK]-estimated 9 percent and that this would push up the GNP (gross national product) growth rate for 1994 higher than the BOK estimate of 8.3 percent.

The sharp production increase last year was attributed to heavy industry's 15.1-percent growth against a 8.4-percent rise in 1993 and light industry's 4.4-percent increase against a 5.6-percent decrease in 1993, NSO officials said.

Office machines such as computers, disk drives and printers achieved a 35.5-percent growth rate and audiovisual devices, including beepers, facsimile machines and color television sets, recorded a 22.5-percent rise. Automobiles, machinery, medical and scientific instruments, and fabricated metal products saw increases of 19.4 percent, 17 percent, 15.1 percent and 14.9 percent, respectively.

In light industry, paper, printing and publication, and food and beverages registered increases of 11 percent, 9.2 percent and 8.3 percent, respectively, though bags and footwear suffered a 15.6- percent production fall.

Production has increased at a faster pace than production capacity, which has been expanding on the strength of increasing investment in equipment and plants since late 1993, with the manufacturing sector having operated at 85.5 percent of its production capacity in December, the highest rate since the NSO started compiling industrial statistics in 1985.

The wholesale and retail sectors in 1994 expanded 8 percent, lower than the 8.5-percent increase registered for the previous year. But shipments for domestic consumption achieved a more than two-fold increase of 8.8 percent last year against the previous year's 4-percent expansion, thanks to a 12-percent rise in consumption of such durable consumer goods as beepers, automobiles and portable telephone sets.

Orders for domestic-made machines and machinery import permits rose 26.9 percent and 73.4, percent, respectively, last year, indicating brisk investment in equipment and plants. But the growth in domestic construction contracts slowed from a 19.3-percent increase in 1993 to an 11.9-percent rise last year.

The jobless rate in December stood at 2.1 percent, down 0.1 percentage point from the previous month, but considering the usual unemployment increase toward year-end, the cited unemployment rate can be taken as an indication of near complete employment, the officials said.

The leading and coinciding indexes of business rose 1.3 percent and 1.1 percent, respectively, from November in December, indicating that the current upturn in the business cycle will continue for more than a year, they remarked.

Multimedia Transport Protocol Developed by Student

SK2701103995 Seoul YONHAP in English 0816 GMT 27 Jan 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pusan, Jan. 27 (YONHAP)—A new type of computer communication system which can

speed up communication-data processing greatly has been developed by a graduate student, Pusan National University (PNU) said Friday.

Chang Chong-uk, who will obtain a doctorate in computer engineering at PNU next month, released his thesis titled "Design of Multimedia Transport Protocol (MTP) and Realization of Very Large-Scale Integration (VLSI)" during the "high-speed network workshop '95" at the Hilton Hotel in Kyongju, North Kyongsang Province, last Tuesday.

The 34-year-old Chang explained that his system can raise the processing speed of computer communication data including video and audio data inside a computer by more than 100 times the current speed.

Several computer firms including Protocol Engineering Co. of the United States have tried to develop the system since 1987 but to no avail.

Chang said his system cut the seven-layer data communication system inside a computer to only three as well as put the system into hardware, not software as was previously the case.

He said that parts of the current communication system consist of software, which is always subject to the Central

Processing Unit (CPU). The processing speed of a computer CPU has improved only 100 to 1,000 times over the past 20 years, while that of a communication network has improved to more than 100,000 times during the same period.

As a result, video data processing was so slow that video and audio data could not be processed at the same time.

But if the communication data processing system is hardware, then video and audio communication data can be processed at the same time, he explained.

With the development of the MTP system, most of the world's communication processing protocol systems connected with Internet are expected to be replaced by the MTP system in a few years, experts here said.

Chang intends to apply for domestic and international patents soon. If the system is commercialized, the world market for it is expected to reach several billion U.S. dollars.

Chang said he has been contacted by big firms like Hyundai and Samsung and even by a Japanese company about marketing his system, which is expected to take about two years.

Burma

Government Troops Move on Karen Headquarters

Manerplaw Fall Reported Near

BK2701104395 Hong Kong AFP in English 1025 GMT 27 Jan 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Bangkok, Jan 27 (AFP)—Burmese government troops are on the point of overrunning the headquarters of the Karen separatist rebel movement, a rebel source said Friday [27 January], adding that he believed the order to retreat had been given.

The fall of Manerplaw, along the Thai border on the Moei river, would deal a decisive blow to the oldest and most powerful rebel group in Burma, the Karen National Union (KNU), which has fought for an independent Karen state since 1948.

Troops from the State Law and Order Restoration Council (SLORC), Burma's military junta government, are "advancing toward Manerplaw from the south and are already near" the rebel headquarters, said a KNU official from the Thai border village of Mae Sot.

"We understand that (KNU chief) General Bo Mya might have ordered the evacuation," the official said.

KNU Views Offensive

BK2701024695 Oslo Democratic Voice of Burma in Burmese 0030 GMT 27 Jan 95

[FBIS Translated Text] The Karen National Union [KNU] has issued a press release dated 24 January regarding the current SLORC [State Law and Order Restoration Council] offensive against Manerplaw—central headquarters of opposition groups and the KNU. The press release received by the Democratic Voice of Burma describes the military offensive by the SLORC Army against the Manerplaw camp as follows:

A spokesman of the Foreign Affairs Department of the KNU has said the SLORC's offensive against Maner-plaw—general headquarters of the KNU and head-quarter of allied organizations—has become more fierce. Taking advantage of the religious conflict within the KNU, the SLORC troops began military operations in front line positions of Manerplaw central headquarters in December of last year.

The KNU press release states that fierce clashes between KNU and SLORC troops are taking place near (Tasein Wargyi) Hill north of Manerplaw and located between the Salween and Thaungyin Rivers. It also states that in the (?northern) front, the SLORC troops are preparing to attack the Daunggwin camp of the All Burma Students Democratic Front. SLORC troops stationed in Kaw Kok Hta and Lae Ra Hta, which are located west of Manerplaw General Headquarters, are preparing to attack Naw Day camp which will give access to the Salween River.

Furthermore, SLORC troops in Ta Day Hkaw and U Wae Hta are gathering their strength. The SLORC troops tried to capture Manerplaw General Headquarters four years ago, but they were not successful.

The KNU tried to hold peace talks with the SLORC military clique in recent months, but the efforts were stalled due to the SLORC's refusal to discuss political matters. The press release says the KNU shall always strive to achieve genuine peace and political stability in the country. The United Nations General Assembly has called on the SLORC to hold talks with all political and ethnic leaders, including Daw Aung San Suu Kyi. Hence, the KNU's political demands are in accordance with the wishes of the international community. The SLORC military clique is opposing the wishes of the international community by its continued detention of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and the launch of offensives against opposition organizations.

Kachins Urge Junta To End Offensive

KIO Issues Statement

BK2701032495 Bangkok THE NATION in English 27 Jan 95 p A5

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The Kachin Independence Organization, which signed a truce deal with Rangoon early last year, has urged the Burmese junta to immediately halt its military offensive against the ethnic Karen guerrillas.

In a strongly-worded statement released late on Wednesday night, the ethnic Kachin group said it was watching "with alarm and concern, the current deterioration in the military confrontation" between the State Law and Order Restoration Council (Slorc) and the Karen National Union (KNU), "particularly the determined efforts of the Burma Army to capture Manerplaw," the KNU headquarters on the Moei River.

The Kachin Independence Organization (KIO), a former close ally of the KNU which broke a united ethnic front to negotiate and strike a ceasefire agreement with Slorc, said the Burmese operation against the Karen "is a regression to the past" which was "determintal [detrimental] to the long year of building faith in the peaceful solution to all discontent," and "inhibits the further exploring of the negotiation process with the KNU and others".

The KIO said it adhered to the principle of peaceful negotiations and stood "ready to contribute to the participation of all in its process until genuine and lasting peace can be realized".

The KIO added that it shared the views of Burma's neighbouring countries that "a degree of stability is perceptible" in the country today.

"The pressure on Manerplaw, as indeed any military or political pressure, is a regression to the past ... Manerplaw has no strategic military value per se for the defence of Burma's territorial integrity or sovereignty," it added.

"Therefore in the interest of peace and national reconciliation, the Kachin Independence Organization urges the State Law and Order Restoration Council to use their utmost restraint in the use of force and desist from the army's onslaught against the Karen National Union immediately," said the statement.

Although the current Burmese offensive against the Karen guerrillas is not as intensive or as heavy as in early 1992, when about 10,000 Burmese troops and heavy artillery and war equipment were mobilized to attack and capture Manerplaw, the Christian-led KNU this time is facing extreme hardship in defending its stronghold as its western frontline was weakened after an internal mutiny and defection.

Exploiting the KNU internal rife, Slore broke its April 1993 unilateral ceasefire against armed ethnic movements, including the Karen, to launch lightning attacks against the Karen. It captured several KNU frontline outposts and moved closer to Manerplaw, which is also the headquarters of dissident Burmese students.

Reporter Analyzes KIO Statement

BK2701040695 London BBC in Burmese to Burma 1345 GMT 26 Jan 95

[FBIS Translated Text] It has been learned that the Kachin organization, the KIO [Kachin Independence Organization], has criticized the current Burmese army's offensive against the headquarters of the Karen National Union [KNU] in Manerplaw. The KIO statement issued today calls for the immediate halt to the offensive against the Manerplaw camp for the sake of peace and national reconciliation.

The KIO signed a cease-fire agreement with the SLORC [State Law and Order Restoration Council] over a year ago. The Burmese Government has been showing signs of impatience for some time at the foot-dragging of Karen leaders on the issue of holding peace talks. The Burmese army has propably decided to solve this issue through military means. BBC correspondent, Larry Jagan, comments as follows:

The current renewed fighting between the Burmese Army and Karen troops are likely to raise concern among ethnic organizations which have not signed cease-fire agreements with the Burmese Government. The current offensive against the Karens is also likely to cause anxiety among ethnic organizations which have signed peace agreements with the Burmese military authorities. In a strongly- worded statement issued today, the Kachin leaders condemned the Burmese army's offensive against Manerplaw.

The Kachin leaders said the current offensive would inhibit the further exploration of the negotiation process with the KNU in the future and that the military pressure on Manerplaw would only have a negative impact. The statement says Manerplaw has no strategic value. What is more significant, said the KIO statement,

is that the offensive against Manerplaw could endanger the peace agreements that had been signed.

The KIO leaders have continued to implement the peace program according to the agreement signed more than a year ago, despite some problems. If the peace programs are to be successful, all ethnic organizations must participate. The KIO statement clearly informed the Burmese Government that the military offensive against any of these organizations could endanger national reconciliation efforts.

According to observers, the KIO statement is aimed at the military intelligence chief, Lieutenant General Khin Nyunt, who is responsible for the government's peace agreements. Secretary-1 Lt. Gen. Khin Nyunt was requested to solve problems every time a problem cropped up in the Kachin State last year. Their requests had been met with considerable success, and so they are likely to wait anxiously for Lt. Gen. Khin Nyunt's response. It is also likely to test the standing and strength of Lt. Gen. Khin Nyunt within the Burmese military leadership.

According to observers, it is believed that since the peace talks took place some months ago, that there is a difference of opinion among the top brass who approve of government policy and a group of hardliners who wish to return to the bttlefield and fight. There are speculations that since the outbreak of clashes a month ago that the clashes were initiated by local commanders who are reportedly not in favor of holding peace talks with insurgent organizations, including those of the Karen State. What can be asked at present is whether the military leaders in Rangoon are reluctant or powerless to call off the new offensives.

According to reports from Rangoon, there is difference of opinion between the moderates and the hardliners. There were reports that the hardliners, who oppose the peace talks, had won. This is also reported to be responsible for the lack of further progress after late October in talks between the government and Daw Aung San Suu Kyi.

Citizenship Reinstatement Deadline Extended

BK2601162595 Rangoon Radio Myanmar in Burmese 1330 GMT 26 Jan 95

[Declaration No.1/95 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council, issued 26 January]

[FBIS Translated Text] Extension of the application period allowing those who left Myanmar [Burma] permanently for various reasons and holding citizenship of the foreign countries to return and reside in Myanmar.

1. The State Law and Order Restoration Council's [SLORC's] Declaration No.3/93 issued 6 May 1993 stipulates that Myanmar citizens, who, with official travel documents issued by Myanmar, left Myanmar permanently for various reasons and became citizens of

foreign countries but wish to become Myanmar citizens again after renouncing their foreign citizenship and resettling in Myanmar, can apply at the nearest Myanmar Embassy Consular Office by giving full details within one year of the date of issuance of the declaration.

- 2. It has been learned that viewing the Union of Myanmar's present increased political and socioeconomic developments, there are still many people who want to reapply for citizenship, extend their passports, and apply for new passports.
- 3. Therefore, the duration period for application to return and reside in Myanmar, which was stated in SLORC Declaration No.3/93, has been extended until 31 December 1995.

By the authority vested in me.

Signed: Lieutenant General Khin Nyunt, secretary-1 of the SLORC

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Najib Sending Warship for UN Troops Security BK2601131095 Kuala Lumpur BERITA HARIAN in Malay 26 Jan 95 p 6

[FBIS Translated Text] Kuala Lumpur, Wednesday [25 January]—Only one Royal Malaysian Navy warship will be sent to help a special UN naval task force off Somalia.

Defense Minister Datuk Sri Najib Tun Razak said it was originally planned to send two ships, but it was later decided that one ship would be adequate.

He said the warship, either KD [Royal Ship] Mahawangsa or KD Indera Sakti, will leave on 1 February and will be expected to arrive off Mogadishu on 20 February.

He said that the deployment is designed to make logistical preparations for the withdrawal of troops and armaments and to help the Pakistani troops who make up the rear withdrawa! line.

"A command and multipurpose transport warship will be adequate for the withdrawal process," he told reporters at his office here today.

The government had earlier planned to send two warships to ensure the security of the peacekeepers, including 800 Pakistani troops, during the withdrawal process.

The withdrawal process will be coordinated with U.S., British, French, Italian, and Pakistani forces. The warship will stop over in Mombasa before returning home.

Regarding additional troops for Bosnia-Herzegovina, Najib said that our readiness to send more troops there had been conveyed to the United Nations through Tan Sri Razali Ismail, Malaysia's permanent representative to the United Nations, and Malaysia is awaiting a decision.

Malaysia is expected to increase its number of troops in Bosnia- Herzegovina from 1,633 to 3,000—a force bigger than the one sent to the Congo in 1960.

Finnish President Departs for Singapore 26 Jan

BK2601150595 Kuala Lumpur RTM Television Network 1 in Malay 1200 GMT 26 Jan 95

[FBIS Translated Text] The Finnish president left for Singapore this evening to continue his visit to another ASEAN country. Foreign Minister Datuk Abdullah Ahmad Badawi was at the airport to see him off. The Finnish president expressed his desire to send Finnish officials to attend courses [kursus] offered by Malaysia. [sentence as heard] Malaysia has welcomed his intention.

[Begin Badawi recording] In fact, he said it was good for Finnish officials to attend the courses because this will promote Malaysia and also provide a good opportunity for Finnish officials to exchange views, know their counterparts better, and make early contacts with these Malaysian counterparts and other officials in developing nations. [end recording]

Commentary Views Bilateral Ties With Finland

BK2601130595 Kuala Lumpur Voice of Malaysia in English 0810 GMT 26 Jan 95

[Station commentary]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Finland president's visit to Malaysia is part of a maiden visit to Southeast Asia. His delegation includes top Finnish companies, which reflects the industrial and business interest in the Asia-Pacific region, including Malaysia.

The significant thing is that Ahtisaari is coming at a time when his country's economy is picking up. Finland's largest companies edged into profit last year after recession made worse by the collapse of trade with Russia. However, economic cooperation between Finland, the most capitalist company in the Nordic region, and Asia-Pacific is not all that new [sentence as heard], but it has been in the low profile. Finnish goods to the region amounted to only 9 percent of its total exports. Finland imported some 779 million Finnish marks worth of goods from Malaysia in the first 11 months of last year while exports totaled 737 million Finnish marks.

There is vast scope for increased trade. His visit, though the first, has set the stage for bilateral economic cooperation to advance further to a more meaningful level. This speaks well for the new focus by the Finnish Government. Up till now, Finland had been preoccupied with negotiations to join the European Union, EU. But his first visit to Malaysia demonstrates that Finland's interest is not ending in Europe. There was a previous

concern that Finland was becoming too Euro-centric. With the Cold War over, it is pointless for Finland to limit itself to Europe. There are so many opportunities in Malaysia, especially in the telecommunications sector.

There is a lot of technical expertise that Finland can transfer to Malaysia by way of joint ventures. Finland, too, stands to gain in the way of new markets in Southeast Asia. It could make Malaysia its platform to penetrate the regional market. One must keep in mind the ASEAN Free Trade Area and the single market of 320 million consumers it will create when established eventually. Finnish companies should realize that Malaysia offers incentives of high technology in industrial joint ventures. There is a lot of scope for increased private sector economic cooperation. What is important is that the ventures should be mutually beneficial. Finnish companies must understand that Malaysia is no longer a low-level cost investment destination. It is for this reason that companies should focus on hightechnology areas which will help to accelerate Malaysia's goal to achieve industrialization.

Finland should not also just focus on bilateral platforms but take its ties with Malaysia to a much higher level. It should understand that there are several European countries trying to put impediments in the way of free trade, such as in the export of timber. Artificial barriers have been erected in the form of social clauses and environmental factors by groups with vested interest. It is hoped that Finland will understand Malaysia's plight and possibly explain to the other EU members that position.

President Ahtisaari's visit to Malaysia could indeed be the beginning of renewed ties between both countries as well as the bridging of some of the gaps between the EU and the Southeast Asian region.

Thai Foreign Minister Urges Prisoners' Release BK2701055795 Bangkok THE NATION in English 27 Jan 95 p 3

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Foreign Minister Thaksin Chinnawat yesterday asked Malaysia, as a gesture of goodwill to mark the golden jubilee of His Majesty the King's coronation, to release 282 Thai prisoners serving time in the country.

Mr Thaksin said he made the request to Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohammed during a 20-minute meeting. He is in the Malaysian capital to co-chair the 7th meeting of the Thai-Malaysian Joint Commission, which ends today.

Most of the 282 Thai prisoners are either crew members of Thai fishing boats found fishing in Malaysian waters without concessions or Thai workers who crossed the border to find better employment in the country.

Drug offences by Thai nationals here are uncommon.

The minister said the Malaysian government will consider the request, and it is likely that it will agree to their release.

Mr Thaksin said he thanked the Malaysian government for warning people with dual Thai-Malaysian citizenship not to engage in activities which may damage bilateral relations.

There are an estimated 7,000 people with dual citizenship.

Speaking to reporters prior to his departure to Kuala Lumpur yesterday morning, Mr Thaksin said many Thai nationals who cross the border into Malaysia do not have a passport and are deceived into acquiring dual citizenship.

He said he will resolve the problem by setting up the first passport office in Hat Yai district of Songkhla province in order to help Thai workers who want to find work in Malaysia.

Mr Thaksin also told reporters that Prime Minister Mahathir has proposed that Thailand and Malaysia enter into a joint venture to build a road link between Songkhla and Penang ports.

He quoted Dr Mahathir as saying the road link will facilitate land transport of goods between the two ports, as sea transport through the Malacca Straits is inconvenient.

"I will convey the proposal to Prime Minister Chuan (Likphai) and Transport Minister Wichit (Suraphongchai) for consideration," said Mr Thaksin.

He said Dr Mahathir also called for closer cooperation among countries in the region in the area of telecommunications. He said the prime minister said all governments should support their private sector in this area.

Malaysia is due to launch its first satellite by the end of 1996.

Senior officials from both countries have been in talks on bilateral issues since Monday. The talks are to be concluded by Mr Thaksin and his Malaysian counterpart Abdullah Ahamad Badawi today.

Singapore

Finnish President, Delegation Arrive 26 Jan

BK2601151595 Singapore Radio One in English 1400 GMT 26 Jan 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Finland's President Martti Ahtisaari is in Singapore for a three-day state visit. Mr. Ahtisaari, who met Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong today, is here to promote Finnish exports and build relations in the region. He is accompanied by corporate executives from Finland's top 20 companies.

Mr. Ahtisaari will also call on President Ong Teng Cheong and hold discussions with Senior Minister Lee Kuan Yew. Deputy Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong will be chairing a meeting between the Finnish delegation and Singapore officials.

Finnish Minister Gives Priority to Asian Economy BK2701024395 Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 26 Jan 95 p 9

[Report by Grace Sung]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Finland believes that the European Union should give the fast-growing Asian economies more priority, its foreign trade minister, Pertti Salolainen, has said.

"We share the view that Asia should be given a greater priority by the EU bearing in mind Asia's growing importance to the world economy," he said in written replies to questions from THE STRAITS TIMES.

He was commenting on the EU's search for a new strategy towards Asia. Its leaders recently endorsed a paper drafted by the European Commission recommending a more coordinated and proactive strategy towards Asia so as not to lose out in the region's booming markets.

Finland has every intention of supporting such an approach, he said.

Mr. Salolainen stressed that although his country joined the EU on Jan. 1, it would not necessarily orientate itself increasingly towards Europe, which has traditionally occupied about two-thirds of the country's foreign trade.

"We have the firm intention to give more attention to the countries outside Europe and, in particular, to Asia," he said.

In fact, he added, EU membership would provide new channels for Finland to "develop and intensify" its relations with ASEAN and other Asian countries.

He said the prospects for further intensification of contacts between Finnish and Asian companies looked promising and "I believe that the importance of Asia for Finland in the trade and economic field will continue to rise."

He noted "a remarkable increase" in trade between Finland and Asian countries in the last 10 years. Asia's share of his country's total foreign trade had almost doubled from 6.6 percent in 1984 to 12.2 percent in 1993. The growth in foreign trade with the "dynamic economies of the East and Southeast Asia" had been more rapid.

The significance of the region to Finland is reflected in the historic nature of Finnish President Martti Ahtisaari's current 12-day tour to Jakarta, Bangkok, Kuala Lumpur, and Singapore. He is the first Finnish president to make an official visit to Southeast Asia.

Mr. Ahtisaari, who arrives in Singapore for a three-day visit today, is also accompanied by a high-level delegation of business leaders from many of the top 20 companies in Finland.

On the development of economic ties between Singapore and Finland, Mr. Salolainen said there was much potential for growth.

Finland, with about S [Singapore] \$50 million worth of investments in Singapore, is the republic's 17th largest foreign investor. Bilateral trade between January and October last year amounted to S \$653.7 million.

The minister said there was a lot of scope for cooperation between Finnish and Singaporean companies in third countries, a point which Mr. Ahtisaari himself made recently to a group of ASEAN journalists visiting Finland prior to his ASEAN tour.

Mr. Salolainen also said bilateral economic cooperation should be based more on direct investments. Through the EU, foreign companies could have "unlimited access to the huge single market of some 400 million people."

He added: "Substantial changes in the geoeconomic and geopolitical location of Finland have created new business opportunities for overseas companies in Finland."

Finnish corporate leaders and government officials have suggested that Singapore and other Asian countries could use Finland as a springboard to the Russian and Eastern European markets.

Mr. Salolainen, noting that Singapore has always served as a gateway for Finnish companies to other Southeast Asian and East Asian markets, said:

"I am convinced that Singapore's role as a regional centre will remain and even increase in the future."

Cambodia

Officer Details KR Attacks Against Rail Lines

BK2601133095 Phnom Penh REAKSMEI KAMPUCHEA in Cambodian 25-26 Jan 95 pp 1, 11

[FBIS Translated Text] Sources at the railway line protection unit in Battambang Province reported today that the rail line between Prey Svay and Kralaom Phluk Stations in Moung Russei District was damaged at eight places on the night of 22 January by 662-A mines attached to TNT sticks set by Khmer Rouge [KR] rebels. There were no casualties in this incident, but 96 meters of rail track, four crossbeams, and a quantity of material was damaged.

Major Sok Nearadei, commander of the Royal Cambodian Railway's protection unit, told REAKSMEI KAM-PUCHEA on 23 January that the Khmer Rouge are intensifying activities almost every day, using mines to try to cut the railway line in Moung Russei District, Battambang Province. Sok Nearadei estimated that the stretch of railway line in Moung Russei District is under increasingly serious threat from Khmer Rouge rebels compared to the previous period. This is unprecedented.

Excluding the mine incident on the night of 22 January, Major Sok Nearadei summed up the activities to destroy the railway line between 1 and 20 January as follows: Khmer Rouge rebels blew up two railway bridges and cut the rail track on 14 occasions, causing damage to the track in 74 places involving 1,776 meters of track and about 20 crossbeams. A crater between one and one and a half meters deep and between one and a half and two meters wide was left at each place.

Due to the almost daily activities by the Khmer Rouge to destroy the railway line in Moung Russei District, rail traffic has been facing problems. Rail traffic between Pursat Station and Battambang has been definitively suspended since 25 November.

Sok Nearadei said that our technicians have been able to repair the damaged railway line in some places; this cannot be done at other places, however, because of insecurity.

The above situation along the railway line has been reported to the General Staff Office of the National Defense Ministry, but no reply has been received on the measures taken by the General Staff Office to improve security along the rail line.

Major Sok Nearadei suggested that the General Staff Office should strengthen the forces based in the areas crossed by the railway line.

As though voicing support for the military forces in Kompong Chhnang Province. Major Sok Nearadei quoted Brigadier General Chhim Sam-ang, commander of the Kompong Chhnang Province Operational Zone, as saying that "in case of attacks on trains in Kompong Chhnang Province, the officers responsible for the particular areas in which the attacks take place will be fined or dismissed."

Previously, Khmer Rouge rebels frequently attacked trains in Kompong Chhnang Province. The situation is calm now because the Khmer Royal Armed Forces in the area have constantly heightened their vigilance.

Columnist Views Sihanouk Appeal to Khmer Rouge

BK2701051195 Phnom Penh REAKSMEI KAMPUCHEA in Cambodian 27 Jan 95 pp 1, 2

[From "This Issue's Comment" column by Meanop: "Why Are the Khmer Rouge Leaders So Lucky?"]

[FBIS Translated Text] It can be said that nobody in this world is more lucky than the Khmer Rouge leaders. This good luck befalls them despite the fact that they are the killers of more than one million people and their crimes are too serious to be pardoned, neither legally, worldly, nor morally. Even if they were hanged or chopped to pieces, it still would not be adequate punishment for the crimes committed against the Cambodian people during their 1975-79 rule.

The king father has appealed to all Khmer Rouge leaders for their return to national society and for them to set up their own party to participate in the coming elections in 1998. This is with the exception of two harmful Khmer Rouge leaders, namely Pol Pot and Ta Mok—the king calls on them to retire and live outside Cambodia.

The king's proposal has been supported 100 percent by the Royal Government, but on the condition that they must respect the Constitution of the Kingdom of Cambodia—the irrevocable supreme law which is respected by everyone.

This enormous privilege is really big luck to the Khmer Rouge leaders. But, except for the Khmer Rouge leaders themselves, no one knows whether they will accept this luck or not.

The king's idea is to achieve national reconciliation, peace, and national unity. But it is still not known whether this huge privilege given to the Khmer Rouge leaders—although it will benefit the national reconciliation—will violate the law, the moral code of mankind, and the souls of the millions of people who were killed.

Moreover, if this case is made possible, it means that the law outlawing the Khmer Rouge, the international convention on the punishment of the genocidal acts, and the U.S. efforts to collect documents and proof concerning the genocidal crimes committed by the Khmer Rouge leaders and send them to court for trial at the Hague will all become meaningless, void, and futile. Those with blood-stained hands will legally escape punishment and even have sufficient rights to do anything at will.

What good merits have these Khmer Rouge leaders done in their past life to the point that they are given better luck than anyone else in our world...?

Commentary on Sihanouk's Support for Government

BK2601035095 Phnom Penh National Radio of Cambodia Network in Cambodian 1300 GMT 25 Jan 95

[Political commentary: "A Noble National Pride"]

[FBIS Translated Text] In his first public address after returning to the motherland, his majesty the king acclaimed and voiced his support for the policy of the Royal Government [RG] and appealed to the Khmer Rouge to stop fighting and to return to the national fold.

Speaking at the ceremony to open a psychiatric ward at a hospital in Ta Khmau Town, our revered father of national reconciliation said that many achievements have been built and restored and that reconciliation within the RG constituted a powerful influence for it to achieve new successes.

News analysts say this commendation by the king constitutes a noble national pride for the RG and National Assembly under the roof of the Constitution, regardless of their different trends.

It is known to all that although the RG is just a little over one year old, by following his majesty the king's lofty ideas in 1994 alone, the RG achieved many big feats, such as the good cooperation between various (?big) parties which have mutual understanding and respect for each other's interests, the mass defections by the Khmer Rouge soldiers, and the granting of freedoms to the press and to establish various federations.

The king's above statement has caused a most shameful defeat to a number of circles which attempted to stage a coup against the Constitution through insane campaigns demanding power for the king and which were aimed at toppling the RG.

Moreover, his majesty the king's statement at Ta Khmau Hospital also deals a heavy blow to the face of the Khmer Rouge rebels who have attempted to topple the RG and to revive their abominable genocidal regime in Cambodia.

Also in his statement made at a recent ceremony to open the Svay Don Kev bridge, the king of the Kingdom of Cambodia time and again appealed to Khmer Rouge rebels, including Khieu Samphan—the leader without clout, to stop their armed struggle and to return to national society to form a political party in preparation to join elections in 1998.

This statement also noted that from now until 1998, the RG will remain its priority, nothing will change, and that the one who will change towards dissolving itself is the Khmer Rouge group.

Briefly speaking, in the past over a year, although some selfish persons have told the king that the RG has done this and that wrong, by now his majesty the king has supported and will always support the political program of the RG which is led by Prince Krompreah Norodom Ranariddh and Samdech Hun Sen. This is a noble national pride and an indicator that his majesty the king has always been a cool shade of the people deserving the (?cognizance) stated in the first clause of Article 8 in Chapter II of the Constitution that the king shall be the symbol of national unity and national perpetuity.

Chea Sim Favors Amendment of Draft Press Law BK2501151395 Phnom Penh AKP in French 0410 GMT 25 Jan 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Phnom Penh 25 Jan (AKP)—Samdech Chea Sim, chairman of the National Assembly, would like the draft press law amended to conform with the wishes of the king and public and international opinion.

This is what he expressed in a letter he recently addressed to the Commission for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation.

In fact, it is remembered that before his return to Cambodia His Majesty Norodom Sihanouk expressed concern over the consequences of the draft press law. He

said that: "I hope that in the law on the press in Cambodia criminal offenses will be replaced by civil offenses: a reporter can be made to appear in court for slander or insult. We should avoid, however, comparing mistakes committed by journalists in their articles to crimes."

Talking to reporters, Loy Simchheang, vice chairman of the National Assembly, recalled the efforts of various commissions to improve each law. "The adoption of the law depends on the next debate," specified Loy Simchheang.

Vietnamese Reported Fishing Illegally in Kampot

BK2701055495 Phnom Penh REAKSMEI KAMPUCHEA in Cambodian 27 Jan 95 pp 1, 5

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] According to a fisherman in Kampot Province, small Vietnamese fishing boats of 12-15 horsepower have been catching fish and prawns in the shallow-water area bordering Kampot Province and Sihanoukville every night. The area in which these Vietnamese fishermen have illegally caught fish and prawns is only 2 to 3 meters deep, thus violating the restrictions set by the Marine Products Department.

Although these fishing boats are small, they are capable of catching a large quantity of fish because they come in fleets of 50 to 60 each night.

The same source revealed that the checkpoints at Kaoh Seh and Koh Khyal have allowed fleets of Vietnamese fishing boats to enter Cambodian waters in exchange for 4,000 to 5,000 baht a month from each boat.

Without the connivance by the checkpoint authorities, the Vietnamese fishing boats would not be able to get access to this area. It seems the Vietnamese fishermen are not afraid of anything at all, because the authorities who took their bribes openly give them protection.

Cambodian fishermen would not dare to fish in areas only 2 to 3 meters deep. They do not dare even to get close to those areas, because if caught by the authorities, they will have to pay a very big fine. Briefly speaking, these authorities are tough only with their own fellow countrymen; they just keep their mouths shut regarding the foreigners who have committed offenses in front of their own eyes because of the bribes they are given. [passage omitted]

Indonesia

Commentary on Suharto Speech to Islamic Group

BK2601023195 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0000 GMT 26 Jan 95

[Station commentary]

[FBIS Translated Text] Listeners! Islam was propagated in Indonesia through peaceful and persuasive means in

accordance with the religious precepts requiring no coercion on anyone to embrace Islam. Therefore, we do not force other people, let alone use violent means, in our missionary activities to gain new followers.

Speaking when he opened a meeting of the Islamic Conference Organization's Committee on Missionary Activities at Jakarta's State Palace last Tuesday, President Suharto said the peaceful means used by Islamic missionaries in the old days allowed Islam to integrate into the Indonesian culture. Islamic teachings are now also reflected in national life.

As a pluralistic nation occupying an archipelago, we certainly have invaluable experience. From the time Islam was propagated in Indonesia by the early mission-aries and the Wali Songo [Nine Islamic Holy Men], Islamic missionary activities have encountered no obstacles. It is true that in our missionary activities, we must demonstrate the peaceful nature of Islam because coercion or violent means to propagate the religion is not one of Islam's traits. God has laid down guidelines in propagating Islam, namely through gentle means and understanding. Missionary activities must be done in a friendly, gentle, and wise manner. This kind of missionary will attract people.

Besides inculcating religious tenets, missionary activities are also aimed at making Muslims realize the danger of poverty, to promote solidarity and social commitment, and strengthen work ethics among Muslims. What is no less important is that missionary activities are needed to make Muslims understand the importance of science and technology, as well as the maintenance of their physical health.

Islam teaches that we can change our destiny. This means that we depend on ourselves for progress or failure. Therefore, President Suharto said the government fully supports the view held by several Islamic social organizations in Indonesia, which link missionary activities with development programs. We all know that poverty will cause misery. This means that Muslims' economic welfare should become our common concern. That is why we also insist on the participation of Muslims in national development. As such, Indonesian Muslims have a major role in developing the nation and country along with Muslims in other countries.

* Editorial Praises Suharto's Vision on Development

95SE0081B Jakarta MERDEKA in Indonesian 21 Dec 94 p 6

[FBIS Translated Text] When he spoke before those attending the Thirteenth National Congress of the Association of Indonesian Engineers in Jakarta on 19 December, President Suharto threw out a reminder, which was easy to understand. However, at the same time, it was based on reality. The chief of state said that building an industrial community is not simply a matter

of constructing factories but also means developing a community more capable of handling renewal and modemization.

We say that his statement was based on reality because behind all of the problems facing the industrial community, both those that involve science and technology as well as those involving economic conflicts, ultimately, the people will ask themselves whether all of that will be of benefit to them, both physically and spiritually. Frequently, with regard to research on the impact of the change in a traditional to an industrial community—let us say in the field of agriculture—there is no shortage of theories on how a state or community should prepare itself to deal with the various impacts of the industrial era. However, as far as we can see, our people continue to be surprised by developments. This is something which should not happen if, from the very beginning, we prepare ourselves wisely.

The industrial structure can be said to have originated in the West. When it spread to various other parts of the world, it also brought Western culture with it. For example. Western culture took the form of developing individualistic attitudes and gave the highest priority to economic interests. When these two characteristics came with the factory system to the Eastern countries—let us say to Indonesia—they encountered a community which was far different. In the individualistic West, the law is the end of all problems. In the East we indeed respect the law (much of which came from the West), but we also have what is called our customs—indeed, our customary law. We regard the economy as something which is very important to emphasize. However, we have also considered economic objectives wisely, that is, the establishment of a just and progressive community, and not just individuals acquiring wealth, for example.

Indeed, it cannot be said that we have been indifferent in anticipating the coming of the industrial era to our people. For the last several years we have all agreed that industrial development must be in accordance with the founding principle of our country, the Pancasila [Five Principles of the Nation]. For that reason we have conceived of what is called "Pancasila Industrial Relations." This involves the relationships of the workers with their company. Unfortunately, it has turned out that that concept does not work very well in practice. Indeed, here and there we have seen labor demonstrations and strikes by the workers employed by private companies. Although strikes are not prohibited by our constitution, in fact, strikes are not part of our culture. Because of that we hope that strikes will not be a characteristic of our future industrial development. To prevent strikes from happening, both the workers and especially the executives of a given company should hold firmly to the concept of "Pancasila Industrial Relations."

From another point of view industry also has a psychological impact, because it brings technology and the

demand for efficiency. For that reason the people are forced to acquire scientific knowledge and are also immersed in strong competition.

We can look at Japan, which seems to have been very successful in adapting Western technology. However, it has not forgotten the good manners of its own society. Indeed, Japan has dealt with the impact of the industrial system from another point of view—that is, its workers have developed the disease of acting like workaholics.

Our industrial structure here is still not as well developed as that of Japan. However, we clearly have felt the impact of the change from an agricultural to an industrial community. Indeed, if this change had not been anticipated in a serious way, it could have been worse, compared with what has been experienced by Japan. While Japan has only experienced a few headaches because its people have acted like workaholics and many Japanese are stressed out, we in Indonesia have encountered more basic problems. Among others these involve striking differences in income between the owners and managers of industrial companies and their workers.

A few years ago we became acquainted with the determination of the government to develop a strong agriculture to support our industrial establishment. However, this program has not yet had a very clear impact, particularly on our agricultural community. We wish to strengthen our industries and we agree that industry must be developed by using the potential of Indonesia. The potential which cannot be ignored is our agricultural sector. And if the agricultural sector is to be relied on, our farming community must also benefit from industrial development.

There are many things which we can still do to prepare ourselves to change from a traditional to an industrial community. And the reminder of the president, as quoted above, should be our guide in preparing ourselves more seriously and more correctly, before everything breaks down.

* Nominee for Human Rights Commission

95SE0081A Jakarta MERDEKA in Indonesian 21 Dec 94 p 6

[Article by Murdifi Alfattah: "Bambang Suharto Ready To Be Scorned and Opposed"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Bambang Suharto was really surprised but he responded to the request when Ali Said, the former chairman of the Supreme Court, asked him to bring him a resume of his career. It was just one month later when he again met with Ali Said. He was asked if he was ready to become a member of the National Human Rights Commission (KOMNASHAM). He was told that he must also be prepared to be criticized, opposed, and even physically beaten by some people.

For Bambang, the job given to him is rather difficult, though noble, because it involves service to the nation

and the state. At the same time, it involves ensuring respect for basic human rights. Based on this consideration, he accepted appointment as a member of the National Human Rights Commission.

According to Bambang Suharto, there are several problems, which must be handled, including how to convince bureaucrats or other officials that there is a place for the human rights movement in the national development program or, at least, that its absence may affect the development program. At the same time it is necessary to provide guidance and education, so that ordinary people will not have the impression that government officials still believe that human rights relate to someone who is under arrest, has had his property confiscated, and so forth.

Indeed, there are people who are mistreated by others who are stronger than they are, such as in connection with compensation for the purchase of land. The stronger person may consider that he is not violating the human rights of the weaker person and that this is a matter, which should be resolved through the courts.

In defending the truth or the interests of the people Bambang Suharto is often disappointed when he meets people who use money as a means of exercising power. They reject a settlement of a land dispute without further thought, using the excuse that the matter will be settled in court.

In this connection, if the matter reaches court, the question may not be resolved, and there could be a long drawn out conflict, marked by demonstrations, injured feelings, or other actions that could harm the life of the nation.

Another problem, which may cause disappointment is the view that the task of the National Human Rights Commission is only advisory and that it has no powers of direct supervision and investigation in the field.

Bambang Suharto was asked: "Why, at the present time, are there people who are dissatisfied and can be driven to take action on their own with very little provocation?"

Bambang Suharto replied: "This is a matter that must be looked into, because of the pressures which these people face, including the law, economic factors, or even other matters. Certainly, the problem starts with people who have money or power.

"In dealing with these kinds of problems, in addition to raising the consciousness of the ordinary people, the law at the same time must be resolute in opposing injustice. Meanwhile, government officials who do not understand the situation should be provided with an understanding of human rights. The only problem is that if it is said that government officials do not understand, then they become angry."

Bambang Suharto admitted that the resolution of a problem or dispute through the courts is a very good

thing. However, it must be remembered that people who have no money will always lose out to those who have money or power.

In dealing with cases like this, members of the National Human Rights Commission will try to convince all sides concerned to avoid taking the view that the law can be bought.

Bambang Suharto said that he is convinced that there are still many more honest than dishonest security officials, police, and other persons. He said that he is not concerned or afraid to handle the job assigned to him. Indeed, he will continue to try to resolve problems in a constitutional way until they are completely settled.

To help resolve problems faced by the people, who seek justice, the National Human Rights Commission will more often act as a "mediator" or middleman. When a solution is reached, everyone wins.

Bambang Suharto was asked: "How will members of the National Human Rights Commission handle a case, which involves security or other government officials?"

He replied: "If there is a problem, which involves security or other government officials, the National Human Rights Commission will verify the facts to determine which government official has violated the law. This means that if the violation of the law involves a government official, for example, the National Human Rights Commission will not directly accuse him but will first verify the facts and check again with the official involved or with all of the government offices concerned. After that, the matter will be analyzed to look for possible ways of resolving the problem. In resolving the problem the National Human Rights Commission will only present ideas or views to the officials involved. If all groups concerned agree that the matter should be resolved in court, then the matter should go to court. For people who do not have the resources the National Human Rights Commission will ask for help from the Legal Aid Institute (LBH). Because the National Human Rights Commission cannot become directly involved with the courts and must respect their position, it will only monitor the situation. This is necessary to determine whether an injustice has occurred. If that happens, only then will the National Human Rights Commission ask questions. However, experience shows that a matter of that kind has never happened so far. Nevertheless, there are also cases which have been resolved, for example, with an individual person turning over his land. However, he did not receive compensation for the land.

"In addition, land cases have come up, for example, such as the one in Rancamaya in the Regency of Bogor, West Java, in Sei Lapan in Medan, or elsewhere which have become major topics for news reporting in the mass media in Indonesia. Reports concerning them have even reached the press in the United States. At meetings with a number of human rights bodies, such as the United

States and Asia Labor Solidarity Organization, or on the occasion of a recent visit to the United States, some of us have been questioned about these cases which took place in Medan or Bogor.

"People in the United States learn about these cases from reports from People's Self-Help Institutes (LSM) in Indonesia, which are said to operate in defense of the interests of the people. The problem is that LSM reports are rather emotional in tone, and the facts they present are confused and inconsistent with more detailed information."

Bambang Suharto thinks that it would be best if the LSM's had the courage to express their views in Indonesia instead of "trumpeting" them loudly overseas.

He said: "Personally, I support and cooperate with the LSM's, no matter what happens. However, I will strongly oppose an LSM which only has enough courage to make a noise overseas but is afraid to speak up in the defense of the interests of the people within Indonesia."

He was asked: "Has the human rights movement in Indonesia lost ground?"

He replied: "There is a view that the human rights movement in Indonesia is losing ground. Possibly that is because the human rights organizations have been unsuccessful in fighting on behalf of a given case. However, it should not be said that an LSM, for example, is losing ground because it has been unsuccessful in supporting a case involving land belonging to the people or because it advocates the release of a person being held in jail. In fact, the Legal Aid Board in Bandung, which asked for help from the National Human Rights Commission because it was afraid of being intimidated, was ultimately successful after the National Human Rights Commission entered the field. Indeed, government officials reversed their position and helped the people, so that this case was resolved successfully, as were land cases in Garut, Purwakarta, and other places in West Java. The same thing also happened with the Rancamaya case in Bogor, which was finally resolved completely. Compensation for the land belonging to the people in that area has been paid, and the National Human Rights Commission respects this solution of the matter.

"The controversies which have occurred so far between an LSM and government offices have been caused by the lack of contact or communications, which resulted in a lack of information and feelings of suspicion. Later on, this led to an increasingly long conflict."

Bambang Suharto admitted that frequently in handling a case he comes into conflict with government offices. However, such conflicts need to be resolved on a person to person basis, which is essential and in the national interest.

He said: "In our way of doing things we may be successful in taking part in a conflict. However, in principle we must stand firm and spare no effort until the matter

is completely resolved. In principle, when you are attacking, you need no help. However, victory should make no one feel ashamed."

Bambang Suharto considers that the human rights movement in Indonesia has not lost ground. Although it is said that the human rights movement has lost ground, the U.S. secretary of state said, on the occasion of the APEC [Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation] conference in Indonesia in mid November 1994, that he would not invite the National Human Rights Commission of Indonesia to have a meeting or a dialogue with him. Such a meeting in fact took place at the residence of the U.S. ambassador to Indonesia. However, the meeting was not set up by the U.S. secretary of state.

Indeed, the United States asked the National Human Rights Commission of Indonesia to suggest an appropriate place for this meeting. However, because the National Human Rights Commission did not have its own office, it was agreed that the meeting would be held at the residence of the U.S. ambassador. Bambang Suharto said that there should be no further doubt about the "political wili" of the Indonesian Government. Indeed, foreign groups understand the "political will" of President Suharto. So far the Indonesian Government has provided some support for the National Human Rights Commission, but in general this has been handled at lower levels.

For Bambang Suharto becoming a member of the National Human Rights Commission has been very satisfying because in this position he can contact all groups which have the same desire to resolve every case.

Longer Jail Terms Imposed on Labor Activists

BK2601141895 Jakarta SUARA PEMBARUAN in Indonesian 25 Jan 95 p 1

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Medan, 25 January—The North Sumatera High Court has imposed stiffer sentences on two labor activists—Dr. Mukhtar Pakpahan, SH [Master of Law], MA [Master of Arts] and Amosi Telaumbanua—who were convicted of inciting workers during the demonstrations in Medan. The first defendant was sentenced to four years in jail instead of the previous three years while the second defendant was sentenced to three years in jail instead of the previous 15 months.

The North Sumatera Council of Judges—consisting of Nurat Ginting, SH; Benoti Harahap, SH; and Murdhiyono, SH—said this to PEMBARUAN and KOMPAS in Medan on Tuesday [24 January] after passing judgment on Monday last week. The verdict against the two defendants was submitted to the Medan District Court for further action.

With regard to the judgment, the council stated that the defendant Mukhtar Pakpahan instigating workers continuously from early April 1993 until the demonstration reached its climax on 14 April 1993 in Permatang

Siantar, Medan, and Jakarta. Apart from making instigative verbal remarks, the defendant also declared himself the Indonesian Workers Union's Central Executive Committee general chairman and distributed leaflets with instigative contents.

Nurat said: "Mukhtar violated Bylaw 160 under Article 64 (1) and Bylaw 161 of the Criminal Law."

Among other things, the heavier sentences were imposed on the two defendants because they created anxiety among the public and disrupted peace and stability. There is a need for peace and stability to be maintained in alignment with the ongoing Second Longterm Development Program era. Nurat Ginting, SH said: "The previous sentence imposed on the two defendants by the Medan District Court was not proportional to their acts."

He added that the previous appeal forwarded by Mukhtar and his attorney will not be considered because it will have no effect on the decision by the Medan District Court. Similarly, Amosi Telaumbanua's appeal was not given any consideration.

In a separate development, Alamsyah Hamdani, SH, coordinator for the advisory team on the Medan demonstration, said he has yet to receive notification from the North Sumatera High Court regarding the two defendants, Muktar Pukpahan and Amosi Telaumbanua. The two defendants have also not received notification.

Alamsyah said that if this is the case, he will submit an appeal to the president in an effort to fulfill the request by the two defendants that they be declared free from all charges. [passage omitted]

Laos

SRV Minister Praises LPA on Anniversary

BK2601121495 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0430 GMT 25 Jan 95

["Message of congratulations" from SRV Defense Minister General Doan Khue to Lieutenant General Choummali Sai-gnason, Lao national defense minister, on the occasion of the 46th anniversary of the Lao People's Army; date not given]

[FBIS Translated Text] Respected Comrade Minister: On behalf of all the cadres and combatants of the Vietnamese People's Army and in my own name, I would like to extend my warmest and best wishes to you, Comrade, and all the cadres and combatants of the Lao People's Army [LPA] on the occasion of the LPA's 46th anniversary.

For nearly the past half century, the LPA and the multiethnic Lao people have overcome numerous difficulties and trials, committed various heroic deeds, defeated all reactionary and aggressive forces, and regained national independence for their beautiful

country under the clear-sighted and talented leadership of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party.

Having liberating the country, the LPA continues to hold its weapons tightly, smashing all dark designs and subversive activities carried out by the reactionary forces, contributing to maintaining national security and defending and building the beautiful territory of Laos, and making numerous important achievements. We are convinced that the LPA will continue to win victories in implementing the socioeconomic development strategy from now until the year 2000, thereby building Laos with peace, independence, democracy, unification, and prosperity.

On this auspicious day, may the relations of friendship, special solidarity, and comprehensive cooperation between the Vietnamese and Lao Governments and Armies be further consolidated and developed.

Foreign Minister Leaves for SRV Visit 25 Jan

BK2601080795 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0500 GMT 26 Jan 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Yesterday, a delegation of the Foreign Relations Board of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee [LPRP CC], headed by Somsavat Lengsavat, member of the LPRP CC and chief of its Foreign Relations Board, left Vientiane for a five-day official visit to the SRV at the invitation of Hong Ha, member of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee [CPV CC] and head of its External Relations Department.

During its stay, the delegation of the LPRP CC Foreign Relations Board will hold talks and exchange views and experiences with its Vietnamese counterpart to further develop and strengthen the relations of friendship, comprehensive cooperation, and special solidarity between the two countries in general, and the two boards in particular. At the same time, the delegation will also visit a number of economic and cultural establishments in the SRV.

Group Leaves for Economic Forum in Switzerland

BK2601075895 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0500 GMT 26 Jan 95

[FBIS Translated Text] The delegation of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR] headed by Khamphoui Keoboualapha, deputy prime minister and chairman of the Committee for Planning and Cooperation, left Vientiane for Switzerland to attend the annual World Economic Forum scheduled to be held in (?Berne) on 27 and 28 January.

At the annual international economic forum, the LPDR delegation will inform the world body of the LPDR's economic restructuring policy, our economic achievements, and other aspects of Lao economy, such as its rich natural resources, mineral deposits, and other favorable conditions so as to attract the attention of the forum's

participants to invest in Laos. The delegation also plans to solicit loans, gratis aid, and investments from other countries to contribute to the development of the Lao economy.

Philippines

Abu Sayyaf Releases Captive Reporters

BK2701034495 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY
INQUIRER in English 25 Jan 95 p 4

[Report by Rolly A. San Juan]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Zamboanga City—Five reporters were taken captive by the Abu Sayyaf, a group of Moro extremists, and held for five days after interviewing their leader, the reports said Tuesday.

The reporters traveled last week to Basilan for an interview with Abubakar Janjalani, leader of the extremist group believed responsible for several bombings and attacks against the military and police.

After meeting a contact person, the reporters were taken to meet Janjalani for an interview.

The reporters were told the next day by members of the group that they were not allowed to leave the area.

They were constantly moved to different places, subjected to interrogation on suspicion of being military spies, and their film and radio equipment confiscated, according to Alvin Tarrosa, a correspondent of the Philippine STAR.

The reporters told about their ordeal during a news conference in this port city.

"They said they were keeping us for our own safety," Tarrosa added. "They told us another armed group might harm us along the way."

Tarrosa said they were able to talk with Janjalani, who admitted several crimes attributed to his group.

Janjalani claimed responsibility for the killing of three Christian hunters last Christmas and the slaying the next day of a village official and his son, who went to fetch the slain hunters' bodies, the next day, Tarrosa said.

He said they also saw and talked with the five private land surveyors being held captive by the Abu Sayyaf.

But Janjalani disclaimed responsibility in the recent kidnapping in Basilan, involving a businesswoman and the beheading of two Muslim children, he said.

Janjalani asked the group for "fair and balanced reporting" before they were freed Sunday.

"We are fighting because we want to get rid of all evils in the society now," Janjalani was quoted by the newsmen as saying, citing his group's success in driving away illegal loggers from the violence-torn island province.

The Abu Sayyaf men escorted the newsmen Sunday afternoon to a road in Isabela town in Basilan. The newsmen then took a ride to the town center and reached Zamboanga by boat Monday night.

In Basilan, Tipo-tipo Mayor Al-Rashid Sakalahul has given the kidnappers of a prominent Lamitan business-woman and her brother until today to release them or face the wrath of the entire Moro National Liberation Front [MNLF] in his town.

MNLF leader Jan Jakilan also vowed to grab the immediate families of the kidnap group under Ala Kahal.

"We will also get their families if the need arises to exert pressure on the kidnappers to release their victims. This will be a case of a 'tooth for a tooth," Sakalahul said.

Sakalahul issued the 48-hour ultimatum Monday following reports that Kahal's band planned to turn over their hostages to the Abu Sayyaf.

Memma Espiritu Chua, 62, of Lamitan, her brother Benito Espiritu and her employees, Elena Anoy and Kennedy Saha, were visiting the Chuas' coconut and rubber farm in Barangay [Village] Bohe Baka, Tipo-tipo, when they were seized Saturday.

The kidnappers, reportedly members of the Moro Islamic Liberation Front "lost command" group, later freed Anoy and Saha, but demanded P[Philippine pesos]1 million and 100 heads of cattle for the release of Chua and Espiritu.

Sakalahul, who is a cousin of Commander Jakilan, said if the kidnappers will not release their captives today, he and the MNLF commander will personally lead their forces against them.

Sakalahul said he does not believe that Kahal's group are Abu Sayyaf members, saying they are just plain bandits who would like to make money through kidnappings.

Direct Investments Hit P16 Billion as of Oct

BK2701024795 Manila BUSINESS WORLD in English 25 Jan 95 p 12

[FBIS Transcribed Text] New domestic stock entities numbered 13,353 as of October 1994 with infusions amounting to P[Philippine pesos] 15.95 billion, according to latest data from the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). These new businesses brought in a 26.1 percent hike in investments compared with the corresponding period in 1993.

Improvement in economic growth coupled with encouraging macroeconomic conditions fueled capital formation during the period in review.

The country witnessed a period when loan rates were low, inflation rates were down to single-digit levels and foreign exchange reserves stood at a healthy position. New entitles registered with the SEC reached 1,975 in October 1994 with investments tallying P1.83 billion.

Investments during the period in review outpaced the month-ago level but failed to match the year-ago figure.

A 5.41 percent slip in the number of new entities, however, reflected a 10.83 percent hike in investments from September 1994. Inversely, a yearly comparison shows the 3.4 percent growth in the number of registered firms was accompanied by a 2.32 percent cutbacks in capital formation.

Accumulated investments in the first 10 months of 1994 totalled P16.43 billion. This was infused into 19,682 firms. Investments jumped 27.4 percent against the same period the earlier year.

Business expansion activities amounting to P4.67 billion posted decline from September 1994 and from October 1993, diving 24.25 percent and 11.74 percent, respectively.

SEC data further show a slowdown in corporate investments. Aggregate capital infusions dipped to P6.48 billion, 16.7 percent less than in September and 9.4 percent less than in October 1993.

Meanwhile, investments continued to pick up in September 1994. This amounted to P1.65 billion and posted a 7.1 percent hike over the month-ago level.

Corporate investments infused to 1,608 firms totalled P7.78 billion, soaring 132.1 percent against the same period the previous year.

Composite new and existing domestic stock entities in the first nine months of 1994 totalled 12,908 with registered capital reaching P61.45 billion. Compared with the same period in 1993, a 126.8 percent expansion was recorded.

For September, new domestic stock entities numbered 1,476 with investments reaching P1.56 billion, up 6.3 percent from August.

A total of 446 firms or 30.15 percent of new entities went into the financing, insurance, real estate and business services industry. The industry also cornered the biggest share—P570.5 million—in new paid-up equity.

The Century Saving Bank Corp., a Filipino-owned Metro Manila-based savings and mortgage bank, topped investments in the sector.

The wholesale and retail industry had within its fold 424 new firms along with equity amounting to P198.5 million. Uniden Japan-owned UJ Realty Inc. was the top investor within the sector.

The transportation, storage and communications industry received investments outlay worth P318 million—the second largest among all other industries.

The biggest single initial investment in the industry for the month came from the Subic Telecommunications Co.,Inc. The majority Filipino-owned outfit specializes in the provision of telecommunication services in Subic Bay Free Port Zone.

In September 1994, 118 firms increased their capital stocks. Capital expanded P6.17 billion, up 35.8 percent from August 1994 and 188.6 percent from September 1993.

The biggest single increase in capital stock came from the Filipino owned South Asia Cement Holdings, Inc. of FR Cement Corp. The holding company reinvested P2.62 billion in September 1994.

Again, the financing insurance, real estate and business services industry took in the biggest reinvestment, totalling P4.81 billion.

National Surplus Exceeds Projections for 1994

BK2601133695 Manila BUSINESS WORLD in English 25 Jan 95 pp 1, 8

[Report by M. R. Millar]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The national government posted a P [Philippine pesos] 13.77 billion surplus in 1994, almost 15 percent more than the P12 billion projection of the Department of Finance (DoF).

Based on the Cash Budget Performance report of the Bureau of Treasury (BTr) obtained by BUSINESS WORLD, total revenues last year was P330.878 billion versus the programmed P325.601 billion.

The Bureau of Internal Revenue managed to eclipse its P185.5 billion target, generating P187.5 billion in total revenues.

The Bureau of Customs, however, was not so lucky. It failed to meet its P84.514 billion revenue target, collecting only P81.434 billion. BTr Chief Caridad Valdehuesa told BUSINESS WORLD that while Customs commissioner Guillermo Parayno continues to implement reforms in the bureau, the unfavorable exchange rate dealt a heavy blow on the BoC's revenue performance in 1994.

The DoF used the P27:\$1 exchange rate in projecting Customs collection for 1994. The strong performance of the peso versus the dollar, however, eroded the rate to an average of P24:\$1.

The BTr, meanwhile, bested its programmed P17.5 billion target, generating a total of P20.834 billion.

Ms. Valdehuesa said the BTr's improved performance can be attributed to better collection of advances and fees on guarantees and sound cash management.

Sources of BTr income are:

- —interest on deposits—P7.74 billion—out of which P5.52 billion came from the Bangko Sentral [Central Bank], while the remaining balance of P2.22 billion came from other banks;
- —interest on advances of government-owned corporations which totalled P2.11 billion;
- —income from investments which totalled P5.05 billion; and.
- -other BTr incomes, totalling P5.94 billion.

In 1994, government spent less than its programmed expenditure of P330.368 billion by 4 percent. Total actual expenditure was P317.113 billion. The BTr report said this can be attributed to the lower interest payments resulting from the drop in interest rates on Treasury bills and in the foreign exchange rates amounting to P79.01 billion, P12.23 billion lower than the programmed P91.24 billion.

There was also the collection government advances to government-owned-and-controlled corporations and the underspending in capital outlays.

This year, the surplus is expected to hit P15.5 billion and P17.5 billion in 1996.

Government is also working towards a lower consolidated public sector deficit of P2 billion or 0.1 percent of the gross national product this year and a zero public sector deficit target in 1996.

Thailand

'Top Secret' Meeting With Cambodian General
BK2701151595 Hong Kong AFP in English 1459 GMT
27 Jan 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Aranyaprathet, Thailand, Jan 27 (AFP)—Phnom Penh armed forces' deputy chief-of-staff flew in to this border town Friday for a "top secret" meeting with a Thai regional army commander.

General Nhek Bunchay, who arrived in a helicopter from the northwestern Cambodian province of Siem Reap, discussed "military strategies" with Thai Army Lieutenant General Bundit Malaiarisoon at Surasihanart Camp here, according to a Cambodian military source.

Bundit declined to disclose details of the one-hour meeting.

Thailand's Defence Minister General Wichit Sukmak said Friday in nearby Wattana Nakhon district that the US Secretary of State Warren Christopher would tell the US Congress on Wednesday about Thailand's non-support of the outlawed Khmer Rouge.

Thailand has denied any official links with the Khmer Rouge as alleged by some Western nations.

Wichit visited a Thai border unit here for a briefing on the border situation which is expected to intensify in the next few months as Phnom Penh forces are reportedly poised to attack Khmer Rouge strongholds.

House Urges Review of Burma Aid Policy

BK2701050995 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 27 Jan 95 p 8

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The House Committee on Foreign Affairs called on the Foreign Ministry yesterday to review its policy toward Burma in order to encourage the democratisation process in the military-ruled country.

The committee supports the Government's so-called constructive engagement policy but is unhappy with the pace of efforts to promote individual rights.

"The constructive engagement policy pursued by the Government and Association of Southeast Asian Nations has elements which help promote democracy in Burma and will help conclude ceasefire agreements between the government and the minorities," according to a committee statement.

"But the promotion of democracy in Burma has not received due attention. The Foreign Ministry should adjust its policy to further strengthen the process of democratisation and encourage the freedom of the Burmese people."

The statement was issued yesterday following the weekly meeting of officials from the Foreign Ministry, National Security Council and National Intelligence Agency.

The agenda included an analysis of the implications of Burma's presence as a "guest of the host (Thailand)" for the first time at the annual ASEAN foreign ministers meeting in Bangkok last July.

Burmese Foreign Minister Ohn Gyaw attended the opening of the meeting.

A Burma observer, Chayachok Chulasiriwong of Chulalongkon University's Faculty of Political Science, welcomed the call for a policy review even though he thought it had come too late now that Burma is enjoying improved relations with countries in the region.

Mr Chayachok said the Foreign Ministry should be more active in calling on Burmese leaders to improve the situation in their country.

He said he supported the constructive engagement policy as it kept the door open for dialogue with Burma, but its implementation should be revised.

"We (Thailand) almost never make suggestions to the Burmese government on how to improve political conditions for fear of souring relations and causing dissatisfaction among Burmese leaders," he said.

Changes in the implementation of the policy began with Prime Minister Chuan Leekpai calling last July for the release of dissident leader Aung San Suu Kyi when the Burmese foreign minister called on him while in Bangkok for the ASEAN foreign ministers meeting, he said.

Mr Chayachok said the committee's recommendations would help improve Thailand's image in the eyes of some Western countries.

Panel Recommends Insurance Sector Liberalization

BK2701044595 Bangkok THE NATION in English 27 Jan 95 p B1

[Report by Wichit Chaitrong]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The committee on Thai-US relations came up with three recommendations in a bid to ease the bilateral trade dispute as well as to solve the ongoing pressure over an application from an American Insurance Group subsidiary to turn its representative offices into branches at meeting yesterday.

According to Dr Tirana Phongmakhaphat, chairman of the committee, the first recommendation is to urge the Cabinet to liberalize the insurance sector to comply with the General Agreement on Trade in Services, the second point is to amend the 1966 Thai-US Treaty of Amity and Economic Relations. Thirdly, the committee ruled that the exceptional clause in the bilateral treaty does not cover only life insurance but also non-life insurance.

The first recommendation signalled the government's plan to lift restrictions against foreigners in the insurance sector. Currently, the government does not allow foreigners to hold more than 25 per cent share of any insurance company.

Tirana, however, declined to specify how much of a stake the government would allow foreigners to hold in insurance companies. He said that the liberalization plan is being worked out.

The second recommendation is to amend the details in the Thai-US treaty of amity, which was signed in 1966. The Americans have often cited the concessional clause in the treaty for the benefit of Americans. But Tirana said that the treaty was signed before Thailand became a member of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade and before the multilateral agreement covered the service sector. The treaty, should, therefore, be amended to avoid any future ambiguity caused by the different interpretations between Thailand and the United States.

The third recommendation a reaction to the US pressure on Thailand to allow Universal Insurance Ltd, a subsidiary of American Insurance Group, to transform its 11 representative offices into branches by citing the treaty of amity. The Americans said the treaty gives US citizens equal rights to do business in Thailand and vice versa.

The committee decided at the meeting yesterday that the fiduciary business covers all types of insurance-related

business. The non-life insurance business activities of Universal Insurance, therefore, are not subject to the concessions given by the treaty of amity between Thais and Americans.

Dr Surakiat Sathirathai, also a member of the committee, said that the committee had diverse opinions at yesterday's meeting. However, he welcomed the plan to liberalize the insurance sector, and said that foreign ownership of an insurance company should increase from 25 per cent to 49 per cent.

Vietnam

Diplomatic Ties To U.S. Announced

BK2701102395 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English 1000 GMT 27 Jan 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Diplomatic relations between the United States of America and Vietnam are to be officially established on Saturday, 28 January.

The announcement was made by American officials on Thursday. It is likely that liaison offices will be opened in the respective countries in early February after Tet Lunar New Year holidays of the Vietnamese people.

Eighth Party Plenum Issues Communique

BK2501164095 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 25 Jan 95

["Full text" of communique issued in Hanoi by Eighth Plenum of Seventh Party Central Committee; date not given; read by announcer]

[FBIS Translated Text] The Eighth Plenum of the Seventh Party Central Committee was held from 16 to 23 January in Hanoi. The plenum discussed and issued a resolution on the continued construction and perfection of the government and the reform of the state administration in one step. Comrade General Secretary Do Muoi delivered an important speech at the opening of the conference.

1. The Eighth Plenum of the Central Committee holds that renovation in past years has proceeded comprehensively with more concentration placed on economic reform. At the same time, the political system has also been renovated in positive and firm steps.

In the past, our government's organization and activity have achieved many positive changes. The state's legal management has been strengthened on the foundation of a legal system which has been gradually established, revised, and supplemented to meet the demands of the renovation undertaking. Socialist democracy has been developed in many fields with many legal documents institutionalized, especially documents dealing with economic issues. The organization and activity of the state mechanism have been renovated in one step. The party's leadership over the state has been extended.

The activities of our government, however, are still impregnated with mistakes and weakness. Our legal system has not provided us with an efficient legal foundation. The law has not been implemented strictly. The state mechanism is still cumbersome with poor efficiency in some areas. The evils of bureaucracy, waste, and corruption still exist at a serious level. The principle of democratic centralism is still being implemented weakly. The party leadership has not been accelerated to ensure the strengthening and development of the state mechanism's efficiency.

This situation, together with national demands in the new developing period to accelerate the undertaking of national industrialization and modernization in one step, requests that we strive to build, strengthen, and purify our state mechanism for better efficiency and results. We must also ensure that our government always maintains and develops its revolutionary characteristics by establishing an organic relationship between the working class and the nation and people, and making our government a state of the people, by the people, and for the people under the leadership of the vanguard party of the working class. The state must endlessly strengthen and renovate its organization structure, regulations, and management. We must also perfect the activities of the administration, legislature, and jurisdiction so that we can accelerate the socioeconomic renovation process under the socialist direction to firmly protect our national defense and security.

The state manages all social activities with a legal system which is increasingly perfected to match the new situation. The state must establish sound structures and organizations and efficient and simple mechanisms with clearly defined functions with prompt guidelines for all central and grassroots agencies. It must also consist of a contingent of civil officials who are loyal, industrious, incorruptible, and capable in their specialized work.

The Central Committee Plenum stresses that in the process of building and strengthening our government, we must thoroughly understand the following basic conceptions:

- 1. We must build a socialist government of the people, by the people, and for the people. We must use the alliance among the workers' class, the peasants' class, and the intellectuals under the leadership of the Communist Party as our foundation. We must fully implement the people's democratic rights, maintain social order, and be resolute against all actions which violate the interests of the nation and the people.
- 2. State power is united under a close division and coordination among different state agencies for the implementation of the three powers of administration, legislation, and judiciary.
- 3. We must thoroughly understand the principle of democratic centralism in the organization and activity of the government and strengthen the united leadership

and management of the central government. At the same time, we must develop the responsibility, activism, and creativity of every locality, agency, organization, individual, and the entire system.

- 4. We must strengthen the socialist legal system in which the state manages society through the law. At the same time, we must pay attention to education, enhance social morality, combine administrative measures with ideological education, improve people's knowledge, and amalgamate the legal power with the people's strength.
- We must strengthen party leadership over the government.

The Central Committee Plenum holds that the strengthening of the government in this fashion is a relatively lengthy progress. It must be conducted in positive and firm steps and must be based on the overall reform of the political system. It must be closely attached to the renovation and reorganization of the party.

In the time to come, efforts must be focused on implementing the following important policies and tasks:

- —continuing to renovate the organization and activities of the National Assembly.
- -further renovating the state administrative system.
- -renovating the organization and activities of various judicial organs.
- —developing the role of the people's mastery over the state.
- -strengthening the party leadership over the state.

In the task regarding the building and improvement of the state, emphasis must be placed on renovating the state administrative system aimed at building a clean and capable administration which can correctly exercise its powers and can be gradually modernized in order to satisfactorily carry out the party policy lines, effectively manage state business with successful results, effectively serve the people's lives, build a mode of living and working in society in accordance with the law, spur the development of renovation process, and make the people prosperous, and the country strong, and the society equitable and civilized.

In the years ahead, efforts must be focused on doing the following tasks satisfactorily:

- —renovating the administrative system in order to gradually meet the need for enhancing the close relations between the people and the administration and for ensuring that the state management is compatible with the new situation.
- —unfailingly developing the positive aspects and preventing the negative ones of the market economy.

Urgent tasks to be resolved will consist of renovating administrative procedures, stepping up the resolution of

people's complaints, using various forms to keep the people informed of and to have them contribute their views on the state business, renovating legislative procedures, and establishing public order and discipline in the state apparatus.

It is necessary to rectify the organizational structure and operating procedures of the administrative apparatus in accordance with the set direction and principles. The government and the administrative organs at various levels must be rearranged in a streamlined and compact fashion. They must concentrate on satisfactorily carrying out the tasks of state management and economic development duty; be intent on tackling various problems regarding cultural and social activities, environmental protection, the maintenance of security, discipline, and law; consolidate national defense; protect national interests; broaden foreign relations; and refrain from making direct interference in production and business activities, gradually discard the system of ownership over state enterprises, correctly apply the principles of democratic centralism and the principles of combining management in accordance with sectors with management in accordance with territorial organization in a way compatible with the supervisory and operating functions of the administrative system and with the characteristics of each sector and each specific domain.

It is necessary to strengthen inspection and control work so all economic components will do their business in accordance with the law. We must build a contingent of administrative cadres and civil servants. In the administrative apparatus, besides those elected cadres working in accordance with their terms of office, the contingent of civil servants makes up a large force. They must be selected and used in the direction of specialization and on a stable fashion. They must work devotedly with fair minds and must have adequate knowledge and capability and must meet the set standards for each particular position.

It is necessary to build and gradually perfect the system of public service and the statute for civil servants. Attention must be paid to requirements for ethical quality and to those standards for knowledge and ability. Responsibility must be accompanied by authority and duties must be linked with beneficial policies. We must struggle resolutely and persistently against the bad practice of corruption and misappropriation or wasteful use of public property, the bad practices of officialism and extortion, and those acts of fraud and misinterpreting the law.

2. Our party affirms that the task of ideological theory is one for the entire party. It is always important, and even more so at the current juncture.

The Central Committee's Eighth Plenum held that more than ever before, the present task regarding ideological theory must meet those requirements arising from the reality of the country, that is, the requirements for strengthening the ideological singlemindedness within the party and the political and spiritual unity among the people, for improving the determination to struggle to carry out successfully the renovation process, for fighting against the peaceful evolution strategy in the ideological and cultural fields, for firmly defending the socialist ideological battlefield, for protecting and creatively developing Marxism-Leninism and Ho Chi Minh Thought, for strongly spurring the people's revolutionary movement, for providing scientific arguments for the substantiation and development of party and state polices and lines in the new stage, for contributing to building the theory about the model for national development along the socialist direction in conformity with the characteristics of the nation and the world at present.

The Central Committee's Eighth Plenum totally concur with and passes a resolution on the continued construction and perfection of the SRV and on further renovation of the state administrative system. The plenum assigns the Political Bureau the duty of issuing a resolution on a number of major prientations for the ideological theory tasks in the current situation.

Do Muoi Addresses Eighth Plenum

Part I

BK2701063095 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 25 Jan 95

["First part" of a speech by Do Muoi, general secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam, at the Eighth Central Committee Plenum in Hanoi; date not given—read by announcer]

[FBIS Translated Text] Dear Comrade Advisers, Central Committee Members, and all Comrades:

The renovation undertaking initiated and led by our party is being heartily supported and implemented by the people. It has therefore made very important achievements. The country has changed greatly, creating the need to accelerate the national industrialization and modernization undertaking in one step as outlined by the Midterm National Conference of the seventh party Central Committee.

While considering economic development its central task—as concretized by the second, fifth, and seventh party plenum resolutions—the party Central Committee has also discussed and decided on other important issues. The third party plenum introduced resolutions on national defense and security, foreign affairs, and the renovation and reorganization of the party. The fourth party plenum issued resolution on caring for, fostering, and developing human factors based on the view that human factors are the driving force and goal of our revolution.

The resolution of this plenum, together with the Midterm National Conference resolution and other resolutions by the party Central Committee and Political Bureau, is an integral factor of great importance in renovating the political system and quickly and firmly developing our socioeconomy in the socialist direction. With the eighth plenum, we can say that the seventh party Central Committee has completed in one step a program to concretize the platform and strategy of socioeconomic development approved by the seventh national congress before the party prepares for the eighth national congress in 1996.

Drawing experience from previous party plenums, the party Secretariat solicited opinions widely from party committees at all levels, cadres from all sectors and localities, elderly comrades, scientists, and mass organizations to contribute to the planning for this plenum. Many opinions were added to the Political Bureau reports in this plenum. I am not going to repeat them. I would just like to emphasize a few points.

Dear comrades, Lenin said that the government is the basic issue in all revolutions. Theory and reality have confirmed that seizing the government is difficult, but holding the government is even more difficult. Under the brilliant and prompt leadership of the party and President Ho Chi Minh, our people seized the opportunity to take up arms in unison and successfully carry out the August 1945 Revolution across the country, thus frustrating the fascist, colonialist, and feudal domination; seizing the government; and forming the Democratic Republic of Vietnam, the first people's republic in Southeast Asia.

Beginning immediately thereafter, when our government was just one year old, the Vietnamese people had to wage the national salvation resistance for many dozens of years. Armed only with the iron belief that nothing is more precious than independence and freedom, our people suffered immeasurable losses and sacrifices for a glorious victor, to regain total independence, unite the fatherland, establish the government in the entire country, and create the conditions for our people to intensify their intelligence and skills in socialist construction and national protection.

Consequently, our party has obtained experience in leading the government for more than half a century. Our government has 50 years of experience in national management. Despite successes brought about by correct and creative lines and policies, we have also committed occasional mistakes and shortcomings in our work. The most important thing is that our party and state have quickly realized and corrected our wrongdoings and promptly drawn experiences to advance our revolution further.

In recent years, socialist regimes have collapsed in many countries. The communist parties, which fought formidably for many years to seize and protect the government, have lost power. Our country—despite suffering from the socioeconomic crisis, the sudden cancellation of aid, the loss of traditional markets, the sanctions and embargo, and many types of sabotage activities—has

stood firm and continued to develop and make important achievements in many fields. We need to clarify the causes and draw the necessary lessons from this encounter in order to build a powerful state of the people, by the people, and for the people under party leadership; motivate the people to strive for the goal of national independence, prosperous population, and equitable and civilized society; and successfully build a socialist regime in our country.

In order to achieve the aforementioned noble goal and to complete its historic role in the new stage, our party needs to provide leadership in the satisfactory implementation of the following tasks:

1. We must be resolute and determined in using Marxism-Leninism and Ho Chi Minh Thought as our ideological foundation and a compass for action. President Ho Chi Minh clearly said that if a party wants to be stable, it must have an active doctrine that is understood and observed by all party members, and that a party without a doctrine is like a person without a brain or a ship without a compass.

Our party always affirms the importance of ideological and theoretical work. This work is always important in every revolutionary stage. It is even more important at present. Correct ideology and theory not only create confidence in the future for the entire party and people and help them persist in their chosen ideals and goals, it also helps them find correct solutions to transform their ideals and goals into reality. Our ideal is that national independence must be closely attached to socialism. This is the correct choice outlined by President Ho Chi Minh in his brief political platform, defined in the party's 1930 Political Thesis, and tried and proven by our people in our revolutionary struggle under party leadership for more than six decades. In our national historical situation, only national independence can create the conditions for building socialism, and only the building of socialism can bring real independence for the country and freedom and happiness to the people.

In our thoughts and actions, we must always be firm about Marxism-Leninism and Ho Chi Minh Though, the socialist path, and the party's leadership role. We must regard these as principled and indisputable issues. Incidently, our country's revolution is currently creating many very pressing, fresh, and unprecedented issues that require us to do things while drawing on experience, learning, and studying in a creative fashion. Therefore, while remaining steadfast in the aforementioned principles, we must broaden our continued studies and discussions with a constructive spirit in order to clarify the scientific and practical bases of many theoretical issues now being discussed. This will strengthen the ideological singlemindedness within the party and the political and spiritual unity within society to protect and develop Marxism-Leninism and Ho Chi Minh Thought, to struggle against reactionary and distorting allegations, to supplement and develop party and state policies and lines, and to determine appropriate work methods and steps through which to bring the renovation process to success.

2. It is necessary to build a clean, steadfast, efficient, and effective state apparatus. The state has a duty to institutionalize party polices and lines and organize their implementation in a satisfactory manner, carry out economic development, care for social problems, consolidate national defense and security, adopt a wide-open foreign policy, and run all national businesses smoothly.

Our state has a working class character and is aware of the thinking and views of this class on every issue, ranging from legal issues to structure, policies, organization, and activities. The state also has a profound nationalist and popular character. It is a state of the people, by the people, and for the people.

Uncle Ho said: Our country is a democratic nation. The people are the bosses; they exercise mastery. The state must treat the people democratically while adopting a dictatorial attitude toward those hostile forces opposed to the fatherland and the people. In reality, Uncle Ho established a strong and clearsighted people's administration as stipulated under the 1946 Constitution. It was a state in which all rights and strengths came from the people, all benefits were for the people, and all powers belonged to the people. Renovation and creative ideas for national construction were the work of the people. The administration, from the villages to the central level, was elected by the people. Mass organizations, from the central to the village level, were organized by the people. The party was the ruler, but the success of any revolution—big or small—depends on the masses.

Faithful to Uncle Ho's lofty thinking, our party has always regarded our state and administration as institutions of the people, by the people, and for the people. This was inscribed in the 1992 Constitution: All state powers belong to the people. Under party leadership, we have been able to build a steadfast revolutionary administration over the past several decades that has played a big role in achieving unity among all the people. It was able to mobilize all social resources for the struggle for national construction and defense. Our administration has achieved rapid growth and has matured.

Faced with the pressing need to accelerate the renovation process and national industrialization and modernization, however, our administration has displayed many weaknesses and deficiencies in terms of its knowledge, practical ability, and organizational structure and also in terms of the knowledge and quality of state cadres and employees. Specifically, the bad practices of bureaucracy, officialism, and corruption exist among a large segment of cadres and workers in the party, state, and mass organizations. Cadres have been aloof from the people. They have adopted a haughty attitude toward the people and have therefore become revolutionary mandarins. Lenin and Uncle Ho discussed this issue profoundly. The administrative apparatus itself is swelling

and has become very cumbersome and marked by multilayered and overlapping duties. The efficiency and effectiveness of its operating management are poor. The phenomenon of flouting state law and disregarding order and discipline and the scourge of smuggling have developed in a relatively serious fashion both in the internal ranks and in society. These are pains that cannot be allowed to exist in our new regime. We must adopt appropriate work methods and steps to eliminate these bad practices.

The aforementioned situation requires us to continue to build and perfect the SRV with emphasis on further improving the state administrative system in order to overcome shortages, correct mistakes, and build a stead-fast state and a highly efficient and effective state apparatus capable of meeting the requirements for state management in the new situation.

Satisfactorily carrying renovation another step forward will create favorable conditions for broader renovation drives in ensuing years. This is the way to build and perfect the state in the new regime, making it possible for our administration to surge forward constantly in proportion with the constant growth of the country to be worthy of the people's trust and love.

The people rule the country directly or indirectly through their elected representatives. These representatives must always strive to be worth of the people's trust and confidence. They must study and clearly determine a system through which the people can fully exercise their rights. Just as the people have the right to elect, they also have the right to dismiss those who belie their trust. Cadres and civil servants will be commended and rewarded by the people if they perform well and will be punished if they do poorly. That is the strength of a regime that has its origin in the strength of the people, and that is also the difference between our regime and feudalist and capitalist regimes. It reflects the class nature and the popular character of the revolutionary administration.

Noteworthy is the fact that when entrusted with a position, a segment of cadres and civil servants have abused their powers for individual gains. The law must severely punish those who have committed acts of violating the rights, property, and life of the people; sternly dealing with negative cases; removing degenerated and deviate elements from the party and state apparatuses; and mustering the integrated strength of all party, state, mass organizations, and the public at large to engage in these moves.

In a law-governing state, all organizations, organs, and individuals must place themselves under the law. They must not place themselves above or beyond the law and there is no exception at all. To achieve this aim, great and harmonious efforts must be made to perfect the system. First of all, we must work to examine and to eliminate complicated and inconvenient administrative procedures since they serve as a good breeding ground

for the bad practice of bureaucracy and corruption; to build a streamlined mechanism with high efficiency and with lesser echelons; and to train a contingent of devoted, honest, clean, and competent civil servants capable of performing their duties. We must repay cadres and state employees in a way proportionate with their contributions so those with good performances will enjoy an increasingly improved livelihood. The people's right to mastery must be perfected and increasingly improved in conjunction with efforts to promote socioeconomic development, broaden the people's intellectual standard, and disseminate the law. Strict law enforcement must be accompanied by efforts to conduct indoctrination to improve revolutionary ethics and to follow Uncle Ho's example of industry, thrift, integrity, righteousness, public dedication, disinterestedness, and our people's ethical tradition. Democracy must be accompanied by social order and discipline and freedom must always be exercised within the framework of the law. We must strive to overcome the anarchic situation and stop violations to the law by our mechanism from the central to the grass-roots levels, by party and state organizations, and by people in society. It is essential to strive to satisfactorily carry out President Ho Chi Minh's teaching to build a nonprivileged administration that works to improve the people's daily life. We must strive to ensure complete independence for our nation; build a free, bountiful, and happy life for our people; provide education and jobs for them, enhance the efficacy of the administration while overcoming shortcomings, and improve state management to lead the nation to advance further. Such administration will surely receive support and trust from the people. As a result, the people will forever strengthen their close ties with the party and will apply their decisive strength to protect the state, the regime, and the revolutionary administration as they do their own fate and destiny.

In this spirit, this party Central Committee Plenum will discuss and set lines and measures aimed at reforming administration a further step to meet requirements in the new stage. The people are welcoming and are ready to participate in this reform. They are relying on the party's lines and actions, especially those from the party and administration leadership at the central level, echelons, and sectors. The party is determined to uphold the people's confidence, strives to build a pure and firm administration, and protects the state of the people, by the people, and for the people.

Naturally, this task is not simple and easy but it is a difficult and complicated one. This is because it directly clashes with the interests of some organizations and individuals and aggravates the negligent and lackadaisical concepts and habits that are blocking the renovation undertaking. We must set requirements to enhance the quality, knowledge, and capability of each individual and of our whole mechanism to effectively lead and manage society. This situation requires us to take decisive and urgent actions, yet we should not carry out tasks in a simple and hasty manner. We must carry out a

fundamental reform of our administration in a uniform manner while formulating a program of action at each stage to attain successes step by step.

To satisfactorily carry out our administration reform, we must apply the important lesson of experience of taking into account the Vietnamese tradition, nature, and characteristics while studying and learning from the experiences of the world. However, we should not duplicate or copy the systems from foreign countries. In any case, dogmatism, duplication, and copy in this regard would be detrimental to the interests of our nation and people.

Part 2

BK2701134995 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 25 Jan 95

["Second and last part" of a speech by Do Muoi, general secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam, at the Eighth Central Committee Plenum in Hanoi on 16 January—read by announcer]

[FBIS Translated Text] 3. It is necessary to expand and strengthen the great national unity bloc, which is composed of various classes, echelons, nationalities, religious groups, and countrymen at home and abroad. We must take the worker-peasant-intellectual alliance as the basis for carrying out this task.

In the current international situation, national unity has become a very important factor. The strength of the state stems from the invincible strength of the people throughout the country. Uncle Ho said: All tasks must rely on the people; the people can resolve all issues. Profoundly realizing this fact and with a thorough understanding of Uncle Ho's lofty concept—unity, unity, great unity; success, success, great success—the party Central Committee Political Bureau has issued a resolution on enhancing the great national unity and strengthening the united national front in the new situation. We must consider great national unity as the fundamental objective of our party and state. This is aimed at ensuring the earnest aspirations and the legitimate interests of various classes and strata of people in society.

Our nation's comprehensive and profound renovation undertaking as well as our national industrialization and modernization will only be crowned with success when our party can apply the correct lines and policies and our people can strictly adhere to a singleminded spirit while taking the national cause as a basis and the common goal as a focal point. This will combine all our people into a united bloc using all their energy and capability to work for the fatherland's independence and the people's freedom and happiness.

4. Enhancing the party's leadership role in state management is the decisive factor that will determine success in implementing party lines and policies, in building and perfecting the Vietnamese law-governed state, and in developing administrative reform a step further. To carry out this task in a satisfactory manner, we must

seriously implement the party Central Committee's third plenum resolution on renovating and revamping the party. It is essential to build a pure and strong party and enhance the party's leadership capability and militancy. Party lines and policies must conform with the law and be accepted by the people. They must be formulated in a way that can protect the interests of people throughout the country. Efforts must be made to attain a unified consensus on the ideological concept within the entire party, enhance internal unity, strengthen the people's ranks, and heighten vigilance against all of the wicked schemes and acts by the hostile forces. These forces are attempting to sow division within our party and create disunity among our party, state, and people to accomplish their dark goal of eliminating our party, regime, and revolutionary administration.

All cadres and party members must strive to study and surge forward to meet the requirements of our nation and people in the present stage. They must strive to improve their knowledge in all aspects; enhance their intelligence; promote their ability and ethics; strictly abide by party statutes; and observe the party's organizational principle and activities, especially the principle of democratic centralism. They must adhere to the ideals and objectives of socialism and continue to struggle and sacrifice for the revolutionary cause, the fatherland's independence and freedom, and the people's happiness. They must set a good example for their families in strictly abiding by state laws.

Under the party's way of ruling, many party members have been assigned to different positions in the party, administration, and mass organizations from the central down to the grassroots level. These party members must not abuse their authority. They must work wholeheartedly to protect the people's interests; be faithful servants of the people; and absolutely refrain from acting in an authoritarian manner, oppressing the people, misappropriating the budget or embezzling, or wasting the state and people's property. We must continue to perfect party organizations, chapters, and party affairs committees at various sectors and echelons. The organization of the party staff mechanism must be meticulous and compact and should function in accordance with its authority.

Party leadership should be comprehensive, comprising leadership in the political and ideological front, in cadre organization, and in guiding the unified management of cadre-related tasks in the political system in general and the state apparatus in particular. We must use talented people both within and outside the party. We should commend and promote good and competent people who work wholeheartedly for the people.

These are the factors that will decide the successful implementation of party lines and involve the destiny of the regime and the country. The party provides guidance on the principles of democratic centralism—decisionmaking must rest with the collective, responsibility must rest with individuals, the minority must obey

the majority, lower echelons must obey higher echelons, the entire party must obey the party Central Committee, and the party Central Committee must obey party congresses. It is necessary to develop fully the managerial and operating responsibilities of the leaders of various sectors, echelons, and units.

The party's correct policies and lines have already won the people's confidence. Nevertheless, a large number of people are skeptical of the party's ability to rectify itself; to purify its organization and that of the state apparatus and the state administrative system. The majority of cadres and employees of the state apparatus are party members. Party members account for a significant number of those who are corrupt. Therefore, these tasks constitute a great challenge for the party. The responsibility for implementing these tasks must rest with the entire party, from the central down to the grassroots level and individual party members. It is necessary to link party renovation and rectification with efforts to build a law-governed state and further reform the state administrative system in order to bring about a truly positive change.

The party's performance has been clearly reflected through its leadership over the revolution, through its conduct of the people's war, through its implementation of the renovation process, and through efforts to bring the country through critical ordeals so is can stand firmly on its own feet and develop. To help the party renovate and rectify itself, it is now even more necessary that the party's performance and militancy be further developed, particularly in terms of its organizational and leadership ability for work implementation. The party must bring itself up to the level required by its responsibility for ruling the country in the new stage.

Dear comrades, today our country's revolution is making steady progress. Its posture and strength are much stronger than before. Our entire party, people, and Army must make extraordinary efforts to seize opportunities, exploit opportune situations, and dispel dangers in an effort to usher our country into a new era of development. This is so it can carry out national industrialization and modernization and narrow the development gap with other countries in the region and the world. Although there are still countless difficulties, ordeals, weaknesses, and deficiencies that must be strenuously overcome, we enjoy the support of all the people and the sympathy of friends around the world. We are fully capable of tackling these problems in an increasingly satisfactory fashion in order to advance the revolutionary undertaking even faster and steadier along the chosen path.

Many major issues and substantive measures have already been presented in various reports by the Political Bureau at this party Central Committee plenum. These are my ideas to help clarify the most important issues: How to achieve our goals successfully, how to make it possible for our party to fulfill its important mandate

from the people, he to maintain a longlasting regime, how to protect the administration, and how to develop the revolutionary gains achieved by our people through untold sacrifice of blood and bones.

May I suggest that the party Central Committee and those comrades attending this plenum uphold their responsibility to the entire party and people and develop their collective wisdom in studying, discussing, and making decision on these ideas.

I wish the party Central Committee fine success.

AFP 'Fabrication' on Party Plenum Criticized BK2601150895 Hanoi VNA in English 1456 GMT 26 Jan 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Hanoi VNA Jan. 26—Under the title 'News-Inventing Technique', the daily TIN TUC BUOI CHIEU (Afternoon News) published by VIETNAM NEWS AGENCY today runs an article written by Mr Do Phuong, a Vietnamese journalist, criticizing AFP Hanoi-based correspondent Phillipe Agret for having fabricated a news story about the Eighth Plenum of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee recently held here.

The author [word indistinct] Agret's news story released on Jan. 24 as saying that according to informed sources, at the plenum 'Decisions [as received] are appearing in the leadership of Vietnam's Communist Party over the implementation of administrative reforms and a legal framework to separate state powers', and that the '140-odd party delegates to the plenum failed to reach a decision on measures to speed up administrative reforms that are desperately needed as Vietnam, opens up its economy'.

Actually the plenum held in Hanoi on Jan 16-23 unanimously passed a resolution to continue building and improving the state of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and reforming the state administrative institutions. In cooking up his news story, Mr. Phuong noted, Agret did not pay regard to the facts and truth. For him, only story such as 'Man Bites Dog' is best seller. Following the story's publication, the fabrication was echoed by the French RFI radio.

The Vietnamese journalist continued:

'One should not be allowed to freely slander the highest-level leadership of the party which is leading the country is an unparalleled period of the nation's history. Moreover, it must not let a journalist like Agret affect the relationship between VIETNAM NEWS AGENCY and AFP which is capable of developing well as affirmed by President and Director General of AFP Mr Lionel Fleury during his Vietnam visit in 1994. And it is better to let the new director general of AFP in the Asia-Pacific region Mr Dennis Brulet to make correct assessment of the quality of reports written by a journalist under his management', Mr Phuong said in conclusion.

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